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Harding

The background of the cover is a photograph of a villa in Tuscany. A paved driveway leads towards a yellow villa with a terracotta roof. Two tall, slender cypress trees stand prominently on either side of the path, framing the view of the house. The sky is a clear, vibrant blue. The overall mood is peaceful and scenic.

SPRING
2006

Views from the villa

Faculty self-portrait

Freeing the voice

Helping Habitat

V.14
#2
Spring 06

HARDING UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Seeking to serve

By DAVID B. BURKS



WE BELIEVE IN THE IMPORTANCE OF A GLOBAL EDUCATION. We offer no less. That is why almost 30 percent of each graduating class has participated in a study-abroad experience at one of our six international campuses.

Each program has a distinct flavor. Thus it was obvious for students attending last summer's session in Florence, Italy, to concentrate on the arts (Page 12).

One of the many advantages of a global campus is the opportunity for students to work with a local church. This, along with spring and summer campaigns, helps students develop as Christian servants, reminding us of our motto.

We encourage students to serve Christ and his church and to be a blessing to others, wherever they are.

More than 350 students spent their spring break on campaigns — traveling to 10 states and Canada, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and Venezuela.

The results may be best summed up in a letter written to Daniel Cherry, director of the campaigns. In the following excerpts, Thelma Annaloro tells how the students gave her hope and reaffirmed her faith in God.

"My husband and I lived in St. Bernard Parish in Louisiana for 30 years in an area called Chalmette. During Hurricane Katrina our home was flooded with 17 feet of sewage and swamp water, and 30 years of our lives were now mounds of debris.

"I work for a community college, and Mark Lance, a co-worker, overheard me talking about not having any help to clean out my house. The only thing I could think of doing was to have my home demolished. He heard me say that my husband, who is 73 ... has to use oxygen on a daily basis. I knew Mark is a preacher for the church of Christ in Chalmette, but I never expected his gracious offer of help since I am not a member of his church.

"This week God sent me 17 angels from Harding University spring break campaigns. In 2 1/2 days they completely gutted and cleaned my home of all debris. They sang, prayed, laughed and made me happy with their enthusiasm for just helping someone in need. They never once complained of the stench or piles of sewage they shoveled from my home. I will forever remember these young adults who freely gave of themselves guided by the hand of God."

This spring students also planned and carried out the annual Day of Service to the Searcy community and organized "The Catch," a fund-raising effort for the first Habitat for Humanity home in White County (Page 22).

We are proud of these students who seek to serve, not be served. **H**

David B. Burks

Harding

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ON THE COVER

Painted by Dr. John Keller, chair of the Art and Design Department, the entrance to the villa in Florence is a familiar sight to those who have participated in the University's oldest international program.

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

Voice teacher Steve Smith works with soprano Catherine Heraty during a private lesson. Heraty is an established singer who works at the Richard Tucke Foundation, which gives grants to opera singers. (Page 16)

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The first of three randomly selected faculty, Dr. Ken Hammes gives insights into the life of an English professor.

12 Through an artist's eye

Our cover story features pieces created on location by art and design students and faculty at last summer's discipline-specific international program in Florence.

16 Finding one's true voice

Steve Smith's ability to sing is an amazing gift — as is his ability to help others improve their vocal talents at The Juilliard School in New York City.

22 Helping the homeless

Arkansas First Lady Janet Huckabee is impressed with student efforts to help begin White County's chapter of Habitat for Humanity.

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End note

Dr. John Williams shares his viewpoint on Narnia.

College of Education to offer doctorate

THIS FALL THE CANNON-CLARY College of Education begins three new advanced degree options, including the University's second doctorate.

The educational doctorate in P-20 educational leadership (Ed.D) gives students the expertise necessary to administer all levels of public and private education, including P-12, higher education and graduate school. No other such educational leadership doctorate exists in the United States. Applicants must hold building-level administrative licensure and a minimum of a master's degree. Written and oral comprehensive exams and a dissertation are required for completion.

The educational specialist in counseling degree (Ed.S) prepares students to become leaders and practitioners in the field of professional counseling. A master's degree in counseling or credit equivalent is required. Courses and program requirements include classroom, laboratory and internship experiences that develop competency in advanced counseling practice. The program meets requirements for the license in professional counseling — as specified by the Board of Examiners in Counseling — and prepares students for practice in schools, community mental health and private-practice settings.

"The Ed.D., Ed.S. and the M.Ed. in educational leadership were planned as seamless programs so a student could continue at Harding," explains Dr. Tony Finley, dean of the college. "Having the first P-20 doctorate in the United States in educational leadership will be a tremendous opportunity for Harding.

It will allow us to better serve educators not only in Arkansas, but across the country."

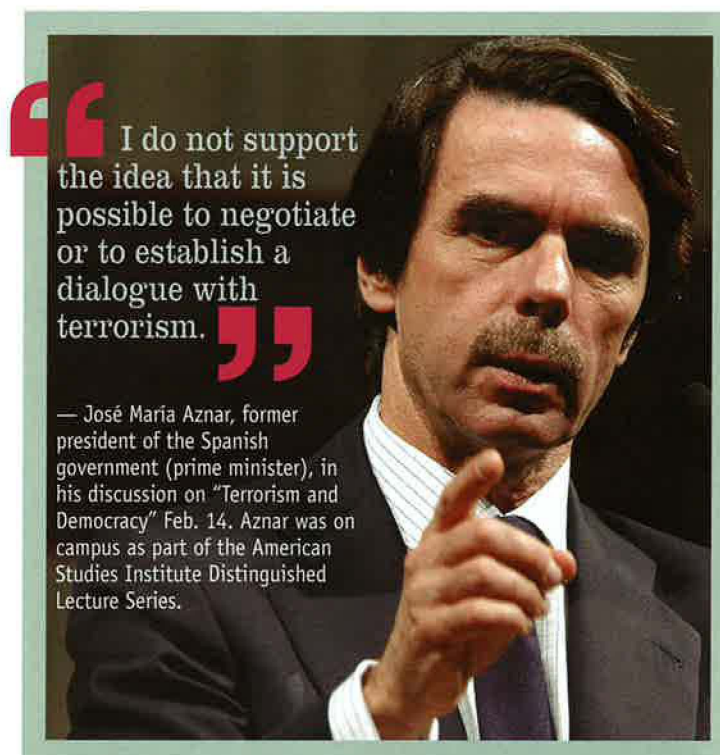
The 35-hour master of education in advanced studies in teaching and learning degree program also begins this fall. It offers advanced study in assessment, use of technology and action research. The courses, aligned with the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, provide support for teachers to develop the necessary skills for pursuing National Board certification.

Education adds Northwest Arkansas campus

TO HELP MEET THE NEEDS OF educators in the thriving northwest part of the state, a professional center has been established in Bentonville. Geared toward teachers and principals, the center offers a master's in reading, master's in educational leadership, and the educational specialist in educational leadership degrees. This summer the master of arts in teaching degree program will be added.

Cecil Boothe directs the center, which opened last fall with 111 students. "We're hoping to enroll at least 120 this summer," he says. "The response has just been tremendous; we are really blessed and pleased." Boothe, who served as a teacher for five years and a principal for 26, most recently worked as assistant executive director of the Arkansas Association of Educational Administrators.

By the time summer classes begin June 5, the facility, housed in a commercial building, will encompass more than 5,560 square feet of classroom space, a distance-learning center, and a technology lab.



"I do not support the idea that it is possible to negotiate or to establish a dialogue with terrorism."

— José María Aznar, former president of the Spanish government (prime minister), in his discussion on "Terrorism and Democracy" Feb. 14. Aznar was on campus as part of the American Studies Institute Distinguished Lecture Series.

Engineering on its own

AS OF JULY 1, ENGINEERING students will have a department to call their own.

In the shift, computer, electrical and mechanical engineering majors will leave the Department of Computer Science and join up with physics majors to form the new Department of Engineering and Physics.

When the engineering program began six years ago with a computer engineering degree, it teamed up with computer science as one department. But in fall 2004, the University added electrical and mechanical engineering degrees, creating the need for two distinct areas.

Dr. Zane Gastineau will chair the new department. He believes engineering and physics will work well together because both fields of study are applied sciences and "share more of the same language."

As salaries for engineers continue to rise, the number

of University students pursuing these degrees climbs. Approximately 100 students are currently enrolled in the engineering program. "It's a very aggressive program," says Gastineau of the 136-hour degree. "It takes a lot of time and commitment to get through."

The first class of electrical and mechanical engineering students is expected to graduate within two years. All computer engineering graduates have so far secured jobs or been accepted to such graduate schools as Purdue, North Carolina, University of Alabama-Birmingham and University of Tennessee.

The University has applied for accreditation of the engineering program and is currently conducting a self-study, with a site visit planned for next fall.

With the departure of physics from the Department of Physical Science, Dr. David Cole will chair the new Department of Chemistry. Computer science will continue to be led by Dr. Tim Baird.

Religious scholars tackle peace and Palestine

IN ISRAEL'S WEST BANK, A 400-mile-long barrier separates Jewish and Arab settlements with stretches of wire fence and concrete. The physical barrier, hailed by many Israelis as a necessary protection against terrorist attacks and condemned by many Palestinians as an illegal land grab, has been a subject of hot contention in the last decade. But barriers of race, religion, nationalism and foreign policy have separated Jews and Arabs in that land for much longer.

On March 2, representatives of Judaism and Islam sat side by side at the University to present their positions on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Rabbi Elliot Gertel of Congregation Rodfei Zedek in Chicago and Dr. Nabil Bayakly, an adjunct professor of Islamic studies at Memphis Theological Seminary in Tennessee, talked about the issues — from racial prejudice to Cold War politics — that have affected American involvement in a dispute that incites passionate responses from the Middle East to Middle America.

Dr. Evertt Huffard, dean of the Graduate School of Religion in Memphis, Tenn., moderated the seminar, "Peace in Palestine: The Arab-Israeli Conflict and U.S. Foreign Policy," which was part of the new L.C. Sears Collegiate Seminar Series hosted by the Honors College. About 300 people attended the event.

Huffard, who has lived in Jerusalem and Nazareth, began by giving a synopsis of U.S. interaction with the modern state of Israel from its creation in 1948 to the pre-

sent. Describing U.S. foreign policy as "very shortsighted and often inconsistent," he stressed the value of understanding both sides of the complicated issue. "In any conflict, it's so important to at least hear where people are coming from," he said. He also emphasized the importance for Christians to learn about other faiths and said that the first step toward a solution is to hear from representatives of the two cultures involved.

Describing Israeli statehood as the story of an embattled people struggling to reclaim its homeland, Gertel traced the Jewish stake in Palestine to the biblical covenant between God and Abraham. "Israel for most American Jews is really like part of the family," he said. "Zionism is the dream of the Jewish people to be restored to their spiritual center." He noted a series of attacks on Israel by Arab regimes, which he said used religion and anti-Israeli sentiment to stay in power.

Bayakly presented the Palestinian narrative, which he said has been underrepresented in the United States.

He said Islam compels Muslims to respect other faiths, but Palestinians have been mistreated in Israel, citing policies that restrict movement for non-Jews and deny Palestinians access to water supplies. "As we speak now, you can go to any faucet and turn the faucet and have water to drink," he said. "The Palestinians don't have that." He

junior political science/pre-medicine/psychology major from Searcy, who also spearheaded a seminar last fall about the Christian response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic. A third seminar is scheduled for fall 2006 about the art of Leonardo da Vinci.

Hopper said that while the University hosts many high-profile speakers through organizations such as the

Constructive dialogues between people of various faiths and backgrounds are key to understanding so much of the conflict in the world we share.

— Brett Keller

advocated a one-state solution giving Palestinians governmental representation in a federation.

Dr. Jeffrey T. Hopper, dean of the Honors College, said the seminar was meant to expose students and faculty to Jewish and Muslim perspectives on the complicated issue. "I think there are legitimate claims that can be made by both sides to the land," he said.

The seminar series is the brainchild of Brett Keller, a

American Studies Institute, this setting allows the Honors College to take a more in-depth look at important issues. "In this case we're trying to associate it with the exploration of the idea. ... We want to examine ideas at the highest level."

A DVD of the Peace in Palestine seminar is available through the Honors College. Interested persons should call (501) 279-4056 or e-mail honors@harding.edu.

— Sarah Brown



Rabbi Elliot Gertel and Dr. Nabil Bayakly shake hands at "Peace in Palestine: The Arab-Israeli Conflict and U.S. Foreign Policy," a seminar hosted by the Honors College. The two men explained their positions on the controversial issue in a presentation moderated by Dr. Evertt Huffard.

Cutting-edge degree combines biology, chemistry

BEGINNING THIS FALL, THE University will offer the latest interdisciplinary approach to the sciences that students who follow such TV shows as "CSI" should appreciate.

Though the University already offers separate degrees in biochemistry, biology and chemistry, the new bachelor of science degree in biochemistry and molecular biology combines elements of all three.

"The students will be using modern, up-to-date laboratory techniques," explains Dr. David Cole, professor and chair of the Physical Science Department. "The students themselves are more aware of this kind of approach just from their exposure to TV. The dividing line between chemistry and biology has become more blurred."

Cole says that biotechnology — genomics, proteomics, bioinformatics and nanotechnology — has emerged as the most promising area for research and development within the fields of biology, chemistry and medicine. "It is the direction in which a major part of chemistry and biology is moving," he explains. "This degree is a better fit for what a majority of students interested in medicine, the health sciences, biology and biochemistry want."

Jo Goy, assistant professor of biology who will serve as a faculty adviser, says, "This degree is going to suit very well students in the allied health field, though it was not necessarily designed for that. It is a great launch pad to Ph.D. candidates in many research fields."

Dr. Dennis Matlock, assistant professor of biochemistry who will also serve as a faculty adviser, says he has already

visited with several prospective students who have expressed interest in the new degree program. Matlock knows the professional value of the degree, as he holds the Ph.D. in biochemistry and molecular biology.

Says Goy, "This degree essentially has characteristics of chemistry and characteristics of biology, but it's not either. It is a very unique approach."

Student Impact 20 years strong

THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF Student Impact 2006 — Aug. 20 — coincides with the 20th anniversary of the program's beginning in 1986.

During the last two decades, hundreds of undergraduates have returned early from their summer vacations to greet incoming freshmen and transfer students and their parents. These volunteers help move students into dorms, lead service projects and games, and try to ease the difficulty of leaving home.

"Energy groups" have been one of the trademarks of Impact since its inception. Incoming students are divided into small groups — led by upperclassmen — which meet multiple times a day to discuss campus life, majors, and other areas of interest or concern. These sessions also allow students to get to know each other on a deeper level.

As a result, Impact has served as an effective tool, not only in acclimating new students to campus, but also in keeping them here.

This year's orientation is led by co-directors Betsy Glover, a junior social science major from East Peoria, Ill., and Ryan Davenport, a junior oral communication major from Indio, Calif.

Student Impact runs Aug. 17-20. For more information, visit www.harding.edu/impact.

Social Work 408: 'Death, Loss and Grief'

Instructor:

Terry Smith, Ed.D.

Professor of Behavioral Sciences, Chair of Social Work Program

Focus:

Through lecture, discussion and group work, this course examines the experiences of death, loss and grief, as well as the support that can be given to those who are grieving.

Overview:

The professor explores a variety of factors involved in death-related and non-death-related grieving. During the semester, students consider changing attitudes toward death in society, normal grieving patterns and special types of loss, and methods of coping with grief. Ultimately, the professor wants students to answer the question "What do we learn about life by looking at death?" Students should become more self-aware and be able to identify and deal with losses in their lives, as well as increase their compassion for those who are grieving.

Methods and Expectations:

Lecture material in the course serves as a basis for activities in which students take stock of their own situation with respect to grief, develop methods for dealing with specific types of loss, and examine grieving processes in different cultures. Students write a paper reflecting on their own loss history and examine themes related to grief as they are portrayed in the arts. They also have the opportunity to volunteer at Hospice Home Care Inc., and to develop a grief resolution ritual for coping with loss. Texts such as *A Grief Observed* by C.S. Lewis and the children's book *Tear Soup* introduce students to methods of coping with grief and serve as tools when offering support to others.

Outcomes:

The primary purpose of this course is to equip students to deal with the wide range of death and loss issues with which they will come in contact in the course of life. They will identify potential loss events, including death, divorce and psychosocial losses; understand how those losses affect individuals in their particular stages of life; and become aware of the legal and ethical issues associated with death and loss. The professor hopes that students will emerge from the class with an increased level of personal awareness, a beginning ability to provide support to those who are dying or bereaved, and a knowledge of resources available to individuals coping with loss.



PHOTO BY LIQUID LIBRARY

NEWSMAKERS

ALPHA CHI

Two students won awards at the Alpha Chi National Honor Scholarship Society regional conference held March 3-4 in Dallas. **Natalie King**, a senior communication disorders major from Blue Ridge, Ga., won the Gaston Scholarship. **Bethany Lam**, a senior English/French major from Bolingbrook, Ill., won the (Dr. Joe) Pryor Fellowship. Worth \$1,000 each, the awards were the largest presented.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Department of Communication

Senior broadcast journalism majors **Anna Brinley** of Keller, Texas, and **Kim Frizzell** of Memphis, Tenn., won first place in the video news category of the National Broadcast Society's annual student media competition. Awards were presented March 18 at the national convention in Washington, D.C. The title of their news entry was "Eminent Domain."

Morris Ellis was presented with the Hall of Fame Award by the Arkansas Thespian Society Jan. 28. The award was given in recognition of his dedication to theater education, professional achievement, and continued service to the International Thespian Society.

Department of English

Four faculty members and two students were on the program at the 2005 Arkansas Philological Association meeting held Oct. 21-22 in Little Rock. The faculty members were **Stephanie Eddleman**, instructor, "Villain or Victim: The Search for Shylock" and readings from her original poetry; Dr. **Terry Engel**, assistant professor, "Reading Thomas Berger's *Little Big Man* as Contemporary American Indian Literature"; **Gail Fry**, instructor, "That's the Place Indians Talk About: The Spirit of Place in Simon J. Ortiz's *Woven Stone*"; and **Brad Holden**, adjunct, "The Reflexivity of Beauty in Shakespeare's *Sonnet 3*." The students were **Gwendolen Jackson**, a senior from Bridgeport, Ohio, "The Redeemer Template in William Faulkner's *Go Down, Moses*"; and **Bethany Lam**, a senior from Bolingbrook, Ill., "Clara the Biloquist? Ventriloquism in *Wieland*'s First-person Narrator" and "Newspapers in *Sister Carrie*: Stage Props or Something More?"

Students roll out red carpet for hospital event

FOLLOWING A LUNCHEON AT White County Medical Center in Searcy Feb. 10, University students transformed the dining room into a fashion show with bright lights, music and red carpet. As 60 models paraded area stores' spring lines, Tinley Treadway of Sheridan, Ark., was behind the curtain lining them up, cuing entrances, and overseeing commentaries on the clothing.

Sara Koehler, 2000 alumna and marketing coordinator at the medical center, said the event — called "Heartfest" — was designed to raise awareness concerning a heart-healthy lifestyle, especially among women. More than 100 guests attended the luncheon, which featured a presentation from a dietitian, and the fashion show, which was organized by the University's chapter of the American Marketing Association.

Treadway, a senior marketing major, said she took charge of the show because she has some experience with fashion; she works for Excel Models and Talent in Little Rock, Ark., and is studying fashion merchandising.

She made arrangements with store managers to provide outfits from their new spring lines, arranged fitting times with models, picked up the outfits from vendors the night before, and coordinated the show. While many of the models were from Excel, the show also featured local amateur models, including some University professors. Models of all ages wore close to 100 different outfits from nine vendors. Kevin Webb, a 1983 alumnus who models for stores such as Dillard's and Drysdales, also volunteered his time for the event.



Brittan Harlow, daughter of athletic trainer Ronnie Harlow and his wife, Angie, models a cowgirl outfit.

AMA adviser and assistant professor of marketing Lori Sloan said Treadway headed a large committee to make the fashion show a success.

"These [students] just turned it up three notches from what I anticipated."

Lectureship to prompt action

DURING FOUR DAYS THIS FALL, participants from across the country will come to campus for encouragement and fellowship — and hopefully, leave with a plan of action.

Hinging on the theme, "Engaging the World," the 83rd annual Lectureship will focus on the Christian's response to and role in society based on lessons from 1 Peter.

Seven keynote speakers will spearhead the event, which begins on Sunday, Sept. 24, and ends Wednesday, Sept. 27. Additionally, University students and Bible faculty members will host classes.

More information, including speakers and classes, will be available online at www.harding.edu/lectureship.

Mental health counseling degree allows choices

IN AUGUST, THE UNIVERSITY will begin offering a master of science degree in mental health counseling. The two-year, 60-hour program is designed to meet requirements for credentials in licensed professional counseling.

The new program shares much of its curriculum with the Marriage and Family Therapy Program, which has been offered since 1993. Says Dr. Vann Rackley, associate professor, "Since the beginning of the Marriage and Family Therapy Program, we have been training mental health counselors. We wanted to offer this to those who would rule out MFT because they wanted to focus on individual therapy."

Says Dr. Lew Moore, professor and chair of both programs, "So many of our graduates work in mental health settings anyway. To have these two choices would address that group seeking that specific training in mental health counseling."

The Mental Health Counseling Program offers training in basic principles and practices of development, diagnosis, treatment, and proper referral and prevention of mental and emotional disorders. At least 280 hours of face-to-face client contact are required for the practicum component.

"One of our goals with this program is to be more flexible," Moore says, adding that students may specialize with an internship practicum relevant to their interests or career goals.

The coursework for both programs — up to the beginning of the practicum — may be pursued on a part-time basis.

Quiz kids return to nationals

AS CHAMPIONS OF ONE regional tournament and runners-up in another, the University Academic Quiz Team turned its attention to a national championship.

The team won the South Division I National Academic Quiz Tournament in Tulsa, Okla., Feb. 11, and placed second in the Region 12 College Bowl Tournament in Houston Feb. 25. The first-place finish meant an automatic bid for the NAQT National Championships in College Park, Md., April 7-8. Competing in Division I for the first time against schools such as the University of California-Berkeley and the University of Chicago, the team finished with a 5-9 record in the tournament.

In Tulsa, the team competed against the universities of Arkansas, Kansas State, Missouri-Rolla and Oklahoma in a three-round tournament and ended with a record of 11-1. After having won the South Division II tournament last year, the University moved to Division I this year because two team members—Andrew Ferren of North Little Rock, Ark., and Jason Loy of Hot Springs, Ark.—had competed at a national level. In addition to Ferren and Loy, both juniors, the winning team included David Ashley, a senior mathematics major from Paron, Ark.; Brett Keller, a junior premedicine/political science/psychology major from Searcy; and Malina Thiede, a senior English major from Highland Village, Texas.

Dr. Mark Elrod, associate professor of political science and team co-sponsor, says the team trains with questions from NAQT because they involve more in-depth academic knowledge than College Bowl, which often features more queries about pop culture or

sports. He says he enjoys watching players in the tournaments who anticipate where questions will lead and then attempt to answer before the entire question is read.

Dr. Mike James, professor and chair of the Communication Department, is also a co-sponsor of the team.

Elrod says the new team took many schools by surprise in its first year, when it won two tournaments and went to two national tournaments.

In its second year, the team has more than doubled in size, and Elrod says the University can now take separate teams to College Bowl and NAQT tournaments. The second-place College Bowl team included Ashley, Ferren and Loy, with the additions of Jason Ballenger, a senior political science and history major from Little Rock, Ark., and Jordan Nester, a senior accounting major from Jacksonville, Fla. The University came into the tournament as defending champion, and Elrod says the final match came down to the last question. Finishing with a 10-2 record, Harding lost only to the tournament champion, Baylor University.

Hopper, Shackelford pair music, painting

DR. JEFFREY T. HOPPER AND Robbie Shackelford collaborated on a joint art-music presentation titled "Revelation of the Dance" at the University's villa in Florence Dec. 3-4, 2005. Shackelford created seven original oil paintings on wood inspired by classical dance forms, including a Bach French Suite; Chopin's "Mazurka"; three waltzes by Chopin; "Dance of the Blessed Spirits," a ballet from the Gluck Opera Orfeo; and "Ritual Fire Dance" from the bal-

let "El Amor Brujo" by Manuel de Falla. The paintings were displayed in the villa while Hopper played the piano.

The Dec. 3 performance coincided with the annual meeting of the American Association of College and University Programs in Italy, for which Shackelford serves as national secretary-treasurer. Directors in attendance represented such universities as Boston, Cornell, Duke, Florida State, Harvard, Michigan and Syracuse. The same program was presented Dec. 4 for the local community, including the consul general and assistant from the consul in Florence, the mayor, local artists and musicians, and church members.

Church & Family acquires Teenage Christian

TEENAGE CHRISTIAN, a quarterly magazine designed to encourage young people in their walk as Christians, has been acquired by the Institute for Church & Family, the office announced in February. The publication, which was launched in 1960 by James Walter Nichols, had been published by Christian Publishing Inc. in Brentwood, Tenn., since 1973.

"We are really glad to be able to take an established publication for teenagers and build on its track record," says Andrew Baker, Institute for Church & Family executive director.

During its 45-year history, Teenage Christian distributed as many as 17,500 copies to teenagers in every state. Circulation reached its peak during the 1970s and '80s. From early 2002 until mid-2004, the magazine appeared only in a monthly electronic form, but

requests for the print version initiated a return of the quarterly print publication in 2004.

Baker says the publication will be redesigned before launching in June. Requests for subscriptions should be directed to the Institute for Church & Family, (501) 279-4660, icf@harding.edu.

Generations find common ground at Homecoming

YOU CAN COME HOME AGAIN.

Homecoming 2006 is your chance to witness many of the developments taking place on campus while reflecting on what has remained constant: the University's dedication to its mission and the lifelong relationships that students form.

During this weekend, opportunities abound for alumni and current students to interact, including the Golden & Platinum Circle Banquet Thursday evening, the Black & Gold Banquet Friday evening, and the football game at First Security Stadium on Saturday. You will also have time to visit during class and club reunions and the pregame tailgate party—a mingling of traditions past and present.

Top off your experience by attending "Fiddler on the Roof" by Joseph Stein, Sheldon Harnick and Jerry Brock. Presented by the departments of Communication and Music, this timeless musical focusing on the importance of family and community will be performed Friday and Saturday evenings.

Held Oct. 26-28, Homecoming also coincides with the Board of Trustees and the President's Council meetings.

For more information, contact the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations at (501) 279-4276 or visit www.harding.edu/homecoming.

NEWSMAKERS

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Dr. **Reet Cronk**, associate professor, presented at an international conference on information technology evaluation in Turku, Finland, Sept. 29-Oct. 1, 2005. Her paper was titled "Generic Management Strategies for Delivering IT Business Value." She is a member of the executive conference committee and has served as chairperson for the conference since 1998.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Cecil Boothe, associate professor and director of the Professional Center in Bentonville, Ark., received honorary life membership from the Arkansas Association of Elementary School Principals at the organization's annual conference Oct. 12-14, 2005.

COLLEGE OF SCIENCES Department of Computer Science and Engineering

The University's programming teams placed first and second in a statewide computer programming contest held March 3 at the University of Central Arkansas. The first-place team comprised **Daniel Benton**, a senior from Livermore, Calif.; **Timothy Ragland**, a senior from Knoxville, Tenn.; and **Mark Rucker**, a junior from Longview, Texas. Second-place team members were **Chris Curry**, a senior from Conroe, Texas; **David Farrow**, a freshman from Salado, Texas; and **B.J. Hardage**, a sophomore from Hot Springs, Ark.

Department of Family and Consumer Sciences

Dr. **Terri Rine**, associate professor, made a presentation at a national meeting of the International Textiles and Apparel Association Nov. 3, 2005, in Washington, D.C. Her topic was "Mini Market: Simulation Exercise with Practical Application."

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

The 2005 *Bison* and *Petit Jean* staffs both received Silver Crown awards from Columbia University at the College Media Advisers convention in New York City March 18. Twenty-five newspapers and 11 yearbooks received gold and silver crowns this year.



Dr. Dutch Hoggatt, center, and two mass communication students work in the production booth at Alltel Arena in Little Rock, where they recently produced three telecasts of Arkansas Rimrockers basketball games for NBA TV.

Communication goes worldwide on NBA TV

NOT EVERY COLLEGE STUDENT has the chance to have his voice broadcast on international satellite television, but now basketball fans worldwide have been able to hear the play-by-play announcing of University student Derek Glover.

Glover, a sophomore from Searcy, was one of several mass communication students who produced three telecasts of Arkansas Rimrockers basketball games for NBA TV in April. One telecast aired April 5 on the satellite network.

Bob Ritchie, operations manager for the University's TV16, coordinated the show, along with Taylor Carr, assistant professor of communication, and Dr. Dutch Hoggatt, associate professor of communication. Ritchie says the network contacted Harding because it is one of the few universities in the area that has the equipment for a remote production. A dozen students helped with everything from camera operation to graphic inserts to announcing.

Ritchie says the experience gave students the opportunity to create a professional product to be seen worldwide and to understand the amount of

effort that goes into a large-scale production. Students worked with a producer for Fox Sports Net and covered games between the Rimrockers and other teams from the NBA Development League.

Glover has been involved with television production since he was in high school. "It is something that I enjoy and have a passion for," he says. As an announcer, he did background research on players and had to practice pronouncing difficult names, such as Rimrockers player Martynas Andriuskevicius. "What comes out on the TV looks a lot more simple and clean-cut than what goes into it," he says.



Life in focus

By SCOTT GOODE, sports information director

FROM HER CUSTOMARY PERCH IN THE press box overlooking Jerry Moore Field, Dasha Watts has her fingers interlocked and is peering down at the batter at the plate. In a voice just above a whisper, she says, "Focus, Watts, focus!" When the batter swings and drives a base hit to the outfield, Dasha leaps from her chair and lets out her trademark "Yes!"

Dasha is the 24-year-old older sister of the Bison starting right fielder Devin Watts. Born with Down syndrome, she is one of the team's most dedicated and popular fans. Every inning or two, one of her many friends stops by the press box to give her a big hug and find out if she needs anything. Her typical request includes M&M's and a Dr Pepper from Sonic.

The Watts family makes the four-hour trip to Searcy for nearly every home game and can often be found at away games as well.

Devin and Dasha have a relationship that has developed from an early age.

"I would not trade [growing up with a sister like Dasha] for anything. I have learned more from her than I could have from any other person," Devin says. "She has more reason than anyone to be mad about life. And as you can tell, she is not. She enjoys life to the fullest."

Her exuberance has made her a favorite to those who know her.

"She was probably the most well-known person at our high school," says Devin. "When I was a sophomore and she was a senior, she was the homecoming attendant for the Special Olympics. She and her escort were the only ones that got standing ovations that day. That shows you how the school felt about her."

Both Devin and Dasha attended Tahlequah (Okla.) High School, where Devin played four years of varsity baseball. In

his first two seasons, the Tigers lost only five games, went to the state tournament, and had a 27-game winning streak. The squad's fortunes changed with the arrival of a new coach, and in Devin's senior season, Tahlequah won only seven games.

Following his last

season, Devin had to make a decision about where to continue his education and baseball career.

"I did not decide until the end of July that I was going to come [to Harding]," Devin says. "I had a couple of other options, including walking on at Oklahoma State, but I knew that if I were ever going to get to play, it would not be until my junior or senior year. I wanted to play, so one night I just walked in and told my parents that I wanted to go to Harding."

That decision has put smiles on the faces of Harding coaches ever since. As a redshirt freshman, Devin started 22 games and hit .271. Last season, his offensive production rose as he hit .331, with nine home runs and 37 runs batted in.

Midway through Devin's sophomore season, head coach Shane Fullerton announced that it would be his last year as head baseball coach. Drawing from his high school experience, Devin displayed his leadership skills by helping younger players through the coaching transition.



Devin Watts



Dasha Watts

PHOTOS BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

"We sat down with a bunch of the younger guys who were worried about playing time or whether they would be able to come back. I told them that I had been through this once and that there were going to be a lot of things that they wouldn't like. I told them that we had proven that we could play here or we wouldn't be here. [The new coaches] were not going to just say that we could not play, but we would have to go out there and earn our spot every day."

Devin did earn a spot for new head coach Patrick McGaha and has continued to serve as one of the team's top hitters, posting an average well above .300.

When Devin plays well, Dasha is there with encouragement.

"I am always happy when Devin gets a hit," she says. "And I always tell him he did a good job."

Dasha is also not afraid to dispense advice to Devin or other Bisons.

"Most of the time, she will let me know if I don't play well, but she'll also say, 'It's OK, you guys play again next weekend,'" Devin says.

Sometimes Dasha's advice is a little more piercing. Devin laughs as he tells a story about a former Bison pitcher who was struggling with his control on the mound. The pitcher returned to the dugout and told Devin he was going to have to do something about his sister. Earlier in the inning, Dasha had told him, "Either throw strikes or get off the mound."

Back in the press box, Dasha sits and organizes her M&M's by color, waiting for Devin to step to the plate again. "Focus, Devin, focus," she whispers. Devin swings and lifts a long drive deep to left field. When it leaves the park for a home run, Dasha's eyes well up and tears roll slowly down her cheeks as her brother trots around the bases. "Yes!" she squeals, leaping from her seat.

As Devin crosses home plate, he sneaks a quick peak up at Dasha in the box.

"Dasha is one of the main reasons I play baseball," says Devin. "She really has life in the right focus." **H**

[ROUNDUP]

Men's basketball completes 16-11 campaign

The men's basketball team knew early on to expect a challenging season. Before halftime of the first game, junior forward Matt Hall, the team's leading scorer and NCAA II South Region Player of the Year in 2005, collapsed in the lane with a season-ending knee injury.

The team rallied to post a successful preconference schedule and completed the 2005-06 season with a 16-11 overall record and a 7-9 mark in the Gulf South Conference.

Senior guard Lonnie Smith led the Bisons, ranking fifth in the conference in scoring with 19.9 points per game and earning First Team All-GSC honors. With 1,047 career points, Smith became the highest-scoring junior college transfer in school history. He also finished as the Bisons' career leader in three-point field goals per game (2.82).

Junior forward Patrick Andrepoint (12.5 points per game) and senior guard Brandon Sims (10.0) also averaged 10 or more points per game. Senior forward Cesu Sprewell led the team with 6.7 rebounds per game, and junior guard Reggie Bibb averaged a team-high 4.0 assists per game.

Newcomers pace Lady Bison basketball

The women's basketball team started the nonconference portion of its schedule successfully with an 8-3 record. Life in the Gulf South Conference proved to be a different story as the Lady Bisons finished with a 12-15 overall record and a 4-12 mark in the GSC.

Two newcomers led the team under first-year head coach Tim Kirby. Junior college transfer Jasmine McClindon paced the team in scoring and ranked fourth in the conference with 16.7 points per game to earn Second Team All-GSC honors.

Catherine McMenamy captured GSC West Division Freshman of the Year honors, averaging 14.0 points and 6.6 rebounds per game. Her 59 three-pointers set the University's freshman record. McMenamy, third in career threes, also earned Second Team All-GSC.

Led by sophomore guard Kinsey Tucker, the team topped the NCAA II in free-throw percentage at a school-record 78.5 percent. Tucker broke the individual school record and led the nation in free-throw percentage, shooting 90.2 percent from the line.

Junior Chelsea Simpson topped the GSC and set a school record by shooting 61.2 percent from the field.

The Lady Bisons also broke the school record for three-point field goals with 184.

Indoor track 12th in nation

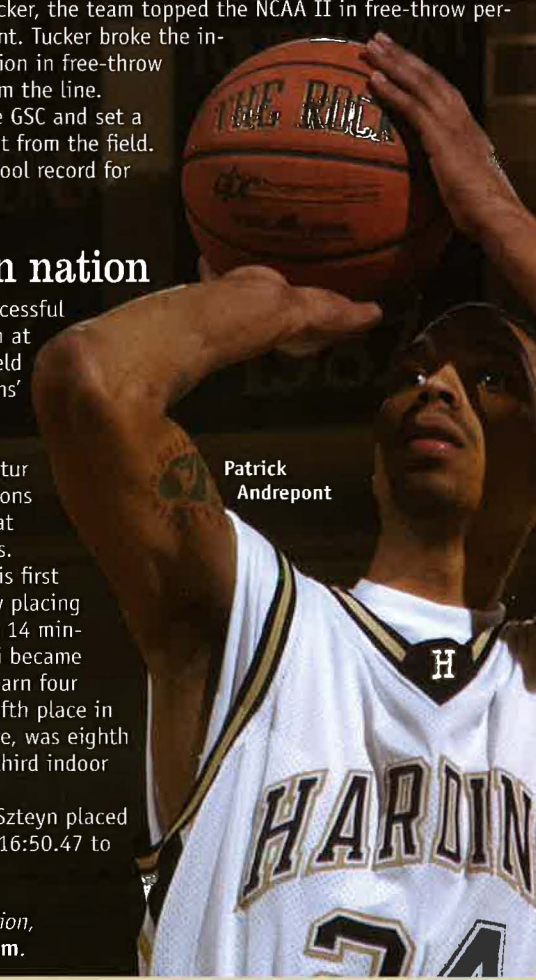
The men's track team completed a successful indoor season with a 12th-place finish at the 2006 NCAA II Indoor Track and Field Championships March 10-11, the Bisons' best since joining the NCAA in 1997.

The distance medley relay team of Shelly Arberry, Przemek Bobrowski, Artur Kern and Julius Kosgei started the Bisons off strong with a third-place finish that earned each runner All-America honors.

Sophomore Kosgei also collected his first individual indoor All-America honor by placing third in the 5,000 meters, finishing in 14 minutes, 13.34 seconds. Junior Bobrowski became the University's first track athlete to earn four indoor All-America honors, notching fifth place in the mile in 4:08.89. Kern, a sophomore, was eighth in the mile in 4:09.90 to capture his third indoor All-America.

For the Lady Bisons, junior Kalina Szteyn placed sixth in the women's 5,000 meters in 16:50.47 to earn her second indoor All-America.

For the latest sports information, visit www.hardingsports.com.



Patrick Andrepoint



PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

From his HEART & MIND



My name ... Ken Hammes

Department ... English

Area of expertise ... the poetry of A.E. Housman

Teaching motto ... “semicolons for the semiconscious”

Greatest challenge ... to teach students *how* to think, not *what* to think

First job ... fire patrol, U.S. Forest Service

Favorite escape ... a favorite Tony Hillerman Jim Chee mystery

Vacation destination ... anywhere in home state, Arizona

Actor of choice ... Philippe Noiret

Inspiration ... Jesus’ statement in John 8:58:
“I tell you the truth, before Abraham was born, I am.”

Finest moment ... when I proposed to my wife, Nancy

Goal for my students ... learn whatever is necessary to bring others to Christ

Worst day ... first day of Navy boot camp

Movie I watch over and over ... *Il Postino*

Last book I read ... *Memoirs of Heinrich Schliemann*, translated by Leo Deuel

If I weren’t teaching ... I would be back in grad school

Favorite Bible character ... Zacchaeus

I knew I wanted to teach ... after studying Shakespeare under James Culp

Hobby ... cartooning/stargazing

Educating
HEART & MIND

ILLUSTRATION BY KEN HAMMES



[COVER STORY]

Through an ARTIST'S EYE



Beverly Austin
assistant professor
Agrigento
etching

By JENNIFER L. MARCUSSEN

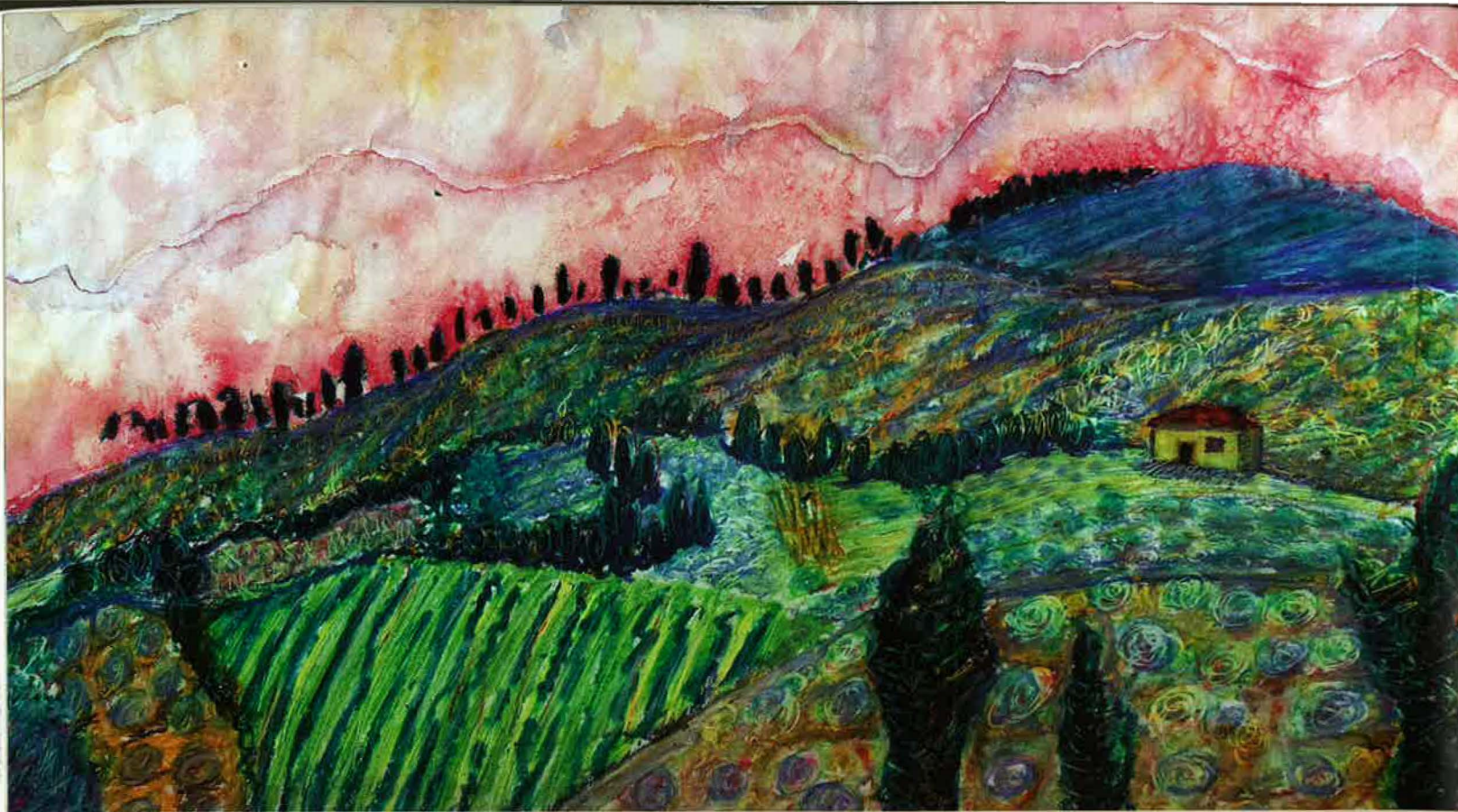
THE CONFINES OF THE CLASSROOM — four walls, few windows — are not conducive to spurring creativity for art majors. ■ The flip side — studying in the heart of the Renaissance surrounded by some of the world's greatest treasures — is not realistic for most.

So imagine the reaction when the University offered an overseas semester structured for these students at the campus in Florence, Italy.

The response: overwhelming. Twenty art majors and three faculty members from the Department of Art and Design participated in this discipline-specific semester during summer 2005.

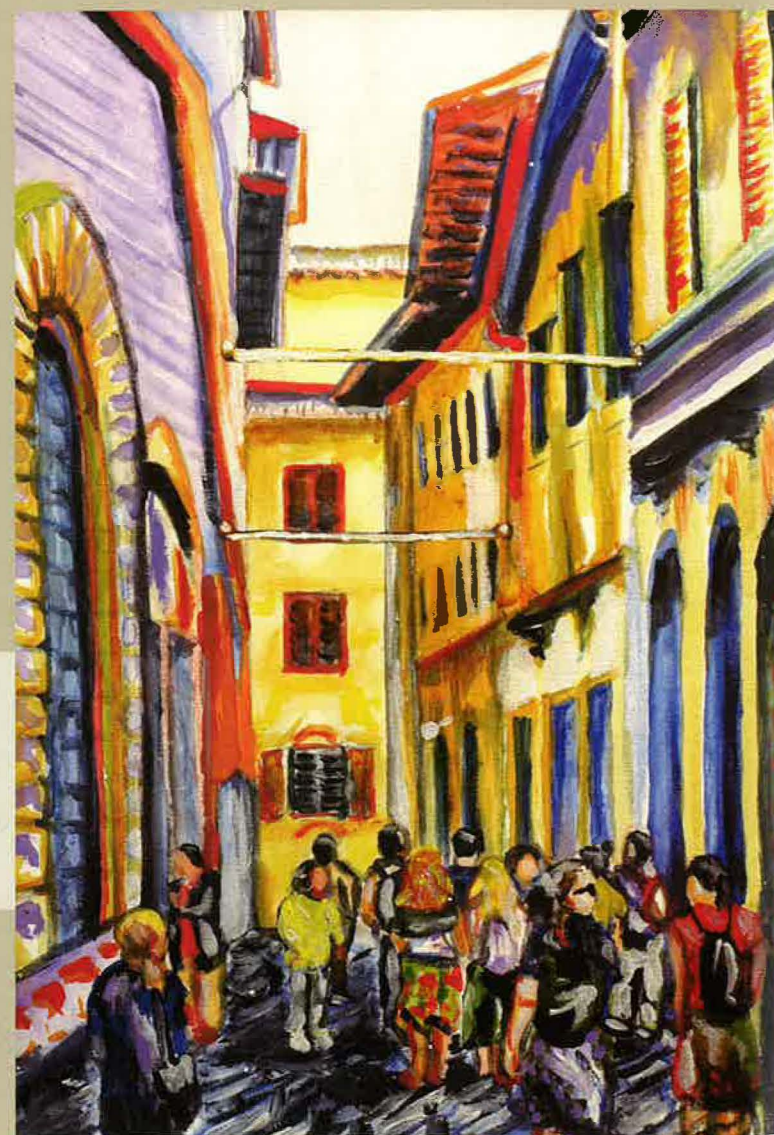
The results: astounding. A sampling of works completed is represented on the following pages. A larger collection was displayed in the Stevens Art Gallery early in the spring semester. **H**

Jon Ross
senior
Venice
oil



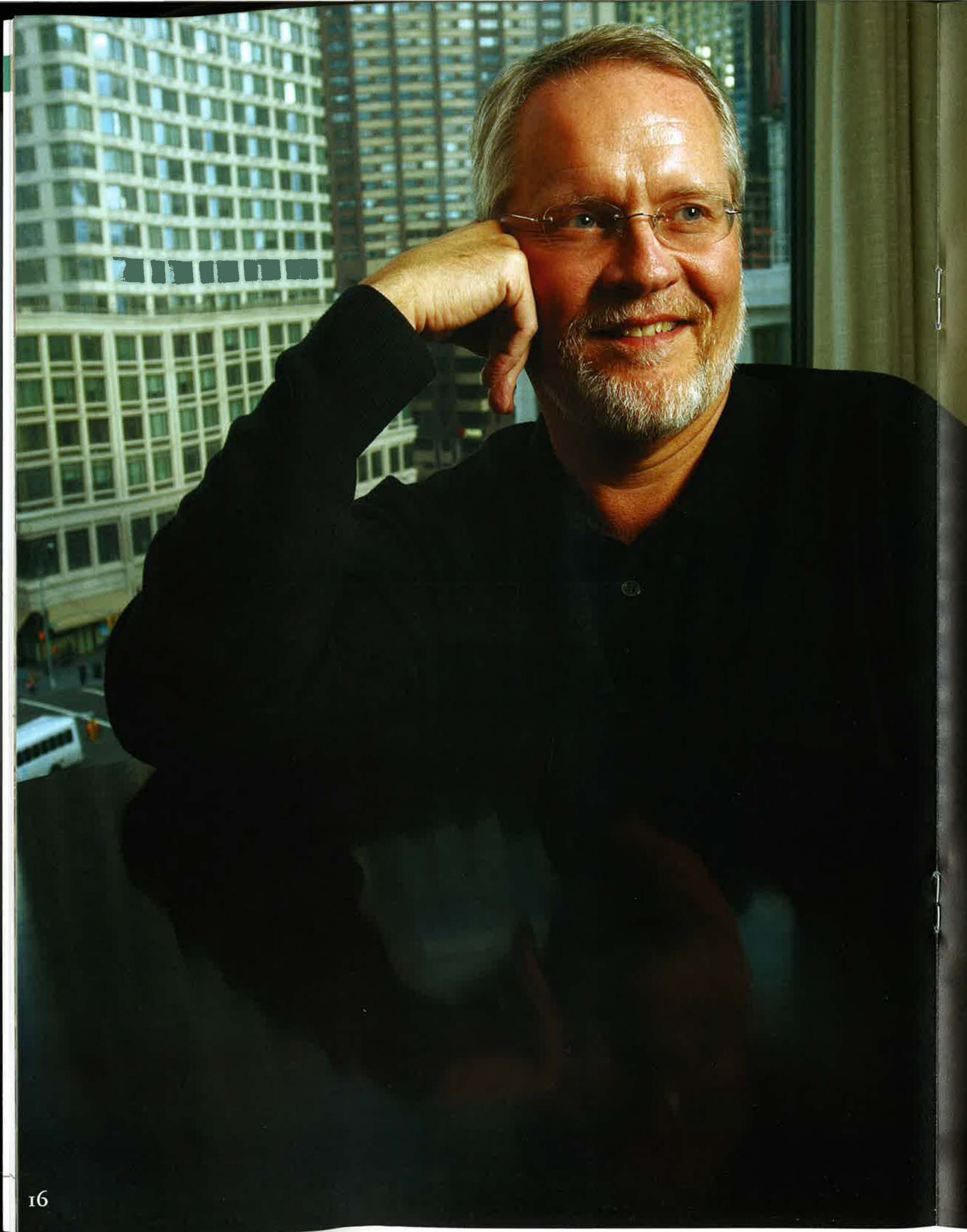
Chance Snider
senior
The Pillar
watercolor

Heather Lehman
junior
From the Villa Balcony
multimedia



Shannon Kennedy
2005 graduate
City Streets
acrylic





Finding one's **TRUE VOICE**

Juilliard's W. Stephen Smith
accompanies his students on
a journey of self-discovery

By JENNIFER L. MARCUSSEN

Photos by NICK ROMANENKO

ABATTLE WAGES IN THE SINGING WORLD: imitation as the sincerest form of flattery versus being true to one's self. ■ For every art, for every skill, a standard of quality exists. Yet no matter how hard the apprentice tries to emulate the master, exact replication is impossible. Discouraged, the gifted student loses sight of who he is, focusing instead on who he cannot be. The result: mediocrity. ■ Voice teacher W. Stephen Smith ('72) is out to free his students from this cliché. >>



Beginning notes

Unlike the arduous audition process students endure for coveted spots at The Juilliard School, becoming a faculty member is, in a way, less nerve-wracking.

That's because there is no audition. Or you could say your whole career serves as your audition. You do not apply for a job at Juilliard; you are sought.

Smith could feed you a list of credentials and successes a mile long. After all, he was asked to teach at the most prestigious drama, dance and music conservatory in the country.

But that's not his purpose, nor why he teaches.

"I can do all the stats and impress people, but it means nothing to me," he says. "So many teachers don't teach; they want to impress you with what they know. When you teach, it's always about the student."

Smith takes his position in stride. You get the impression he would be just as at home teaching at a small school in small-town America as he is in the middle of New York City.

He has lived that life, too. The youngest of five children, Smith was born in Jonesboro, Ark., and grew up singing hymns at church and at home with his family. "Dad's dad taught shape notes — everyone could sight-read," he explains. "[Singing] is part of my heritage."

Discovering his talent and love for music as a young man, he decided to hone in on his ability during his time at Harding. While here he met and soon married fellow music major Carol

Mannen ('72), who would share his passion and pass it on to their daughters. He completed his bachelor's degree in 1972 and went on to earn a master's degree in voice from the University of Arkansas and a master of performing arts degree in opera from Oklahoma City University.

He has served on the music faculties of University of Houston, St. Louis Conservatory, Oklahoma Christian University and Opera of the Ozarks. After coming to Juilliard in 1998, he remained a teacher for Houston Opera Studio until 2003 and continues to teach at the Aspen Music Festival each summer.

Although he did not decide to dedicate himself solely to teaching until he was 32, by voice standards that was young. "Most voice teachers have performed and turned to teaching as their voice gets tired," he says. "I made a commitment really early on to be a teacher and never had a big career as a singer. I did some singing professionally, but never really pursued that. I didn't want that kind of lifestyle; I wanted to stay at home and have a family life."

"I realized the world's probably not going to be worse off without my career as a singer."

With his distinct perspective and ability, he did believe he was meant to teach — that was his way to make the world better. Unlike many voice teachers, he had experience in all aspects of vocal arts: directing, performing, stage presence, diction, theory, piano, etc.

A home without a piano, much less a person who could not

play it, was a foreign concept to daughters Emily Jobe ('01) and Abby ('03) when they were growing up. They loved to watch musicals and operas on video, the same way most children would watch "The Muppets." It was not until years later, when the girls were in school, that they realized "opera was not cool," says Smith.

In the studio

He begins each semester with an introductory speech, setting the agenda for the course. His first point shakes things up.

"You must always exercise your right to choose your teacher," it reads. Juilliard students, due to the specialized course of study each chooses, pick a teacher with whom to hold private lessons during the year. At 55, Smith is the youngest of the seven full-time voice faculty and currently works with 27 of the 65 voice students. "Never become an artist if you don't make your own choices," he tells them.

From day one, he puts the ball in their court — this will not be a co-dependent relationship. "I'm not here to be your mother," he says. "I don't need you." Sounds harsh. But tough love is a necessity in this discipline. His goal is to help his students reach the point at which they don't need him anymore. "Or at least less often," he says. "I want them to develop skills to handle [situations] on their own."

Carol describes his approach as brutally honest. "When his students come to him, they know he's going to tell it exactly like it is," she says. They find his manner refreshing — many have spent years in an environment in which they are not free to find themselves — and a welcome change from the almost-oppressive atmosphere of instructors looking for cookie-cutter replicas and self-glorification.

Once the boundaries have been defined, instruction begins. "Many singers are not well trained," Smith says. So he gives them a foundation, beginning with fundamentals. No matter the singer's experience, each lesson begins with the basics — breathing exercises, scales, keys and other warm-ups precede performing.

In a recent lesson, graduate student Ferris Allen completes a German piece. Smith watches intently, observing the jaw, lips and breathing as well as the sound. He offers suggestions, and Allen repeats the song, finishing strongly. His previous teacher was not open to new techniques and did not correct,

only criticize. "Why have I been beating myself up over anything that man says?" he asks.

The next day, in the undergraduate studio class, first-year student Alexandra Lee takes the stage. Her beautiful voice cannot overcome the insecurity she brings with her. She apologizes at every little slipup.

"Everybody messes up," Smith tells her. "You have a really terrific voice, but your physical presence betrays it. You have to pretend like 'If I mess up, I was supposed to do that.'" She sings again, ending with a curtsy and smile. The class applauds enthusiastically.

His pedagogy as a whole centers around helping students free their voice, not only in a physiological way, but also emotionally and spiritually. One example is to reverse the way they approach breathing. Instead of the traditional focus on how to "hold" breath or control it for support — a negative and stress-inducing method — he puts breath to work for the singer positively, by explaining breath "flow" as a means to move the voice.

Most importantly, he encourages his students not to be carbon copies of renowned singers just to get roles. "Imitation is not healthy or whole," he says. Not only does it limit the student vocally, it disconnects him or her. "Art and creativity should impact you as a human being," he says. "It loses its effectiveness when it becomes a business. You have to adhere to the principles of what you think are healthy and true, even if you never make a living from it."

Smith is so passionate about freeing the voice and being true to self that he has written a book about it. *The Naked Voice: A Wholistic Approach to Singing* (Oxford University Press) is due this fall. "Many students are losing their soul," he says. "I want to change the philosophy. If every person sang with

their voice ... then the public would be beating down the doors to get into every production."

Part two of his approach: never give criticism without suggestions or correction. "He's unique in that he's able to listen, assess, ... diagnose, and communicate how to make it better," says Carol. Thus his students never feel bullied or beat down. They leave each lesson more empowered and more secure. Over time, he watches their confidence and humility grow.

His schedule is packed — and varied. Monday through Wednesday he gives individual voice lessons to 27 Juilliard

Life at JUILLIARD

STUDENTS COME AND GO from the lobby of The Juilliard School on a typical weekday afternoon. A few sit alone, studying or listening to an iPod. Several sit in small groups, waiting for their next class. The observer can try to guess the students' disciplines: the dancers walk gracefully, and many sport flexible clothing. The actors, well, you hear them before you see them. And the musicians are obscured by the instrument cases they hoist around campus.

The Juilliard community is similar to many college campuses, complete with a dorm and cafeteria. The 750 students come from various social classes and ethnicities from across the country and globe, with 28 percent of the student body from overseas. And they have the same social concerns and insecurities as any other young person. "Contrary to popular belief, we do have social lives," says Emily, a second-year voice student who gives tours of the school.

But as a conservatory, students bypass many of the general education requirements expected at other universities and begin intensive studies in their chosen field. Not everyone can attend a school located in the midst of Manhattan, surrounded by the nation's most renowned opera houses, auditoriums and museums. And how many colleges have more than 250 Steinway pianos serviced and tuned daily? **H**

While Carol Smith accompanies on the piano, Steve Smith demonstrates proper vocal technique to bass Paul An during a weekday lesson at Juilliard. An, a second-year undergraduate who attended pharmacy school four years and served three years in the U.S. Army before entering Juilliard, is one of 27 conservatory students with whom Smith has worked this school year.



students from his fifth-floor studio at the school. He also holds studio classes two nights a week, one for graduates and one for undergraduates. Carol accompanies him on the piano every day except one.

"I give her Mondays off," he says wryly.

He teaches eight to 10 hours every day, a different student every hour. "Once I start, I don't take a break until I finish," he says. "When the next student comes in, then one leaves. It's all one-on-one. It's very invigorating because each gives me a lot of energy."

These young students represent only the front end of his work. On Thursday and Friday he gives private lessons from his apartment only a few blocks away. But to call these individuals students is a bit misleading. Most of them are fully developed professionals — some of the world's leading singers, performing in renowned opera and concert houses as well as Broadway and other musical productions. Their successes



During an undergraduate evening class, Steve Smith applauds a student's performance. These studio classes allow singers the opportunity to receive criticism and praise from both the instructor and fellow students.

serve as testimony to the effectiveness of Smith's teaching.

Take for instance soprano Christine Brewer, whose signature roles include Donna Anna in "Don Giovanni." Her opera and orchestral performances, as well as solo recitals, have filled the seats of such venues as the Metropolitan Opera, Opera de Lyon, English National Opera, New York City Opera and the Edinburgh Festival. She sang the title role on

the 2006 Grammy Award-winning classical album "Songs of Innocence and of Experience," which earned Producer of the Year, Classical; Best Classical Album; Best Choral Performance; and Best Classical Contemporary Composition.

Then survey the careers of mezzo-sopranos Joyce DiDonato and Kate Aldrich. DiDonato is the reigning singer, earning acclaim for such roles as Angelina in "La Scala," among others; Aldrich is the latest arrival, taking the world by storm with her youth and talent. She made her recital debut at Carnegie

will offer critiques and suggestions.

The goals for the trip are twofold: "I wanted them to experience a big city ... and to have a chance to sing to judges who are experts in their fields," says Burdette, who cites an eclectic list of musical influences — from Iron Maiden and Aerosmith to Harry Connick Jr. and Tori Amos to Beethoven and Mozart.

Six singers will graduate this spring, thus the trip offered a bittersweet celebration of accomplishment. Burdette's impact on their lives is obvious, with two students considering pursuing music degrees.

One senior, Marsha James, has performed in Der Singkreis since her sophomore year and animatedly talks about dreams of a singing career. Another senior, Safari Moore, acts as group leader and finds out during the trip that she has been offered a substantial scholarship for college.

Following the Chinese meal, the group — including chaperones Robinson, Burdette and his wife, Carissa Johnson ('02), two mothers, and Forrest City Junior High chorus director Evelyn Turner — traipses to yet another tourist site.

So far the students have visited several Big Apple mainstays: the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, Central Park and Rockefeller Center. Friday evening, they attended

Hall in March and the next month premiered in "Carmen" at New York City Opera.

You would think the rivalry an intense one, with DiDonato not wanting to be upstaged by the newcomer. But as Smith recalls, when she recently came in at the end of one of Aldrich's lessons, she sat quietly and listened before offering genuine praise. "It's so nice to hear somebody sing Carmen who really sings like Carmen," DiDonato told her. "You're wonderful, Kate."

"That's just the kind of person Joyce is," says Smith. "They're competing mezzo-sopranos, and she's got that kind of generosity about her."

Away from the piano

Smith is giving as well, with vocal instruction consuming much of his time. But he also has performed more than 40 roles in opera and musical theater and directed or conducted more than 20 productions. Singing is his passion; the voice, his career choice — although they do not define who he is.

"I love to sing," he says. "But I don't need to." When his students wonder if they have what it takes, he tells them: "If you can do anything else and be happy, you should do it. If you can't do anything else and be happy, then pursue singing. If

you pursue singing, you become a better singer, whether you make any money at it or not."

He enjoys the pinnacle of his profession but points out that New York life is not all the glitz and glitter television and movies portray it to be. But it is exciting. "We've always got a parade or protest going on."

The high cost of living combined with the masses of people can be overwhelming, he admits. He and Carol have adjusted to the environment, but in one aspect they have reverted to college days.

"My biggest complaint about living here is that we cannot have a washer and dryer in the apartment," he says. "And you have to have quarters. Each washer is \$1.75, and each dryer is \$1.75."

"You live here differently than anywhere else. In fact, we don't have a car here. A car is wasted here. ... What you can carry is what you bring home. But everything delivers. Even McDonald's delivers."

Yet Juilliard and New York still hold mystique for many, and Smith has been asked numerous times how he got there.

"I did not aspire to it," he says. "I just worked hard."

But for anyone who knows him, the answer speaks for itself. **H**



The MUSIC MAN

Forrest City's Dan Burdette is the real thing

WITH BASEBALL CAP ON backward and hair pulled into a ponytail, Dan Burdette ('98) cuts through the streets of Manhattan, working his way to Chinatown on a drizzly Saturday night. He looks at ease and moves quickly among the throngs of people, and you wonder if he's a New York native. It's only when you see the entourage following him that you know he's a tourist.

A group of laughing teenage girls eyes purses and other items for sale on the streets. They might not be real, but who cares — they look like Louis Vuitton. Reaching their destination, all pause at the entrance of the chosen restaurant. Then the chorus director fondly referred to as "Mr. B" or "Burdette" turns to instruct his students.

This is no ordinary field trip; it is the culmination of years of hard work by Burdette and his students at Forrest City (Ark.) High School. He arrived in the town 45 miles west of Memphis, Tenn., five years ago. Youthful dreams of being a rock star had expanded to other musical options, including teaching.

But as is the case in schools today, funds for the arts were difficult to procure. Nonetheless, his students wanted to sing. He dove in.

With the support of administrators, parents and the community, he has developed a well-respected music program in the school of 1,200. He conducts three groups: the Mustang Choir; a smaller, audition-based concert choir; and an all-female group of 10 chamber singers, Der Singkreis.

Forrest City Principal Abbie Robinson, who came along as a chaperone, has high praise for Burdette. "He built the program from basically nothing," she says. "You can see the camaraderie and respect he has built with the kids."

On Sunday, the most-accelerated of the three groups, Der Singkreis, is performing in the New York, New York 2006 Festival of Music, singing three selections: "See the Gypsies" by Zoltan Kodaly, "Poor Man Lazarus" by Jester Hairston, and "O Bone Jesu," composed by Burdette himself. After the performance, music professors from such universities as New York and Rutgers

a Broadway musical, "The Producers."

From the 86th-floor observatory of the Empire State Building, the students gather for a photo. The Manhattan skyline lights up the night. A light snow falls. "Most of them may never get to experience something like this again — something other than Forrest City," says Burdette.

The day of the competition, the sleepy group assembles at 7:30 a.m. to take a chartered bus to the school where they will perform. Upon arrival, a tuxedo-clad and now intense Burdette ushers them into a warm-up area. Separated into altos and sopranos, they practice pronunciation, posture and pitch followed by the day's repertoire.

A sea of long black dresses, the girls file out of the practice room to the auditorium. "I'm proud of you already," Robinson tells them.

And the girls, too, should be proud. They earned their way here, not just musically, but financially. A large portion of funds raised came from a CD the girls made. Burdette chose Christmas songs from the public domain and arranged them. The girls then recorded "Twelve Carols of Christmas" and sold the album for \$10 per copy. Each student's goal: sell 10-20 CDs. The results: approximately 500 sold.

Burdette finds singing a character-



Music teacher Dan Burdette leads his chamber singers through a series of warm-up exercises minutes before they take the stage. The group performed as part of the New York, New York 2006 Festival of Music March 23-27.

building discipline and hopes to instill in his students not only a passion for music, but also "a good work ethic in whatever they do. I want them to work hard, to take ownership in what they're doing."

He explains that some students approach choir as a goof-off class, but these girls "get upset when they know they can do better and try to work to fix that."

Also, he points out, while singing requires a degree of talent, "You can teach

most people to sing correctly." Like math, science and English, music, too, has a place in education, he believes.

"Music needs to be some kind of requirement," he says. "Everyone should be exposed to music that has survived hundreds of years ... even if just music appreciation."

"There was a time when everyone knew who Mozart was." **H**

— Jennifer L. Marcussen

BOTTOM PHOTO BY CHARLIE MARCUSSEN

Helping *the* homeless

By APRIL M. FATULA

Photos by JEFF MONTGOMERY

WHILE SERVING AS PRESIDENT OF THE HONORS College and the American Studies Institute Distinguished Scholars, Hillary Kennington Mount ('05) became aware of the local niche for a Habitat for Humanity chapter. In her leadership positions, she arranged several service projects to benefit the organization.



Janet Huckabee shares her support for Habitat for Humanity with students gathered in the Student Center March 31. The first lady of Arkansas is a member of the board of Habitat for Humanity International.

"I knew there were many clubs on campus that tried to do projects with them, and I thought it was interesting that there was not a Habitat in White County," she says. "Dr. [Jeffrey] Hopper [dean of the Honors College] gave me an article from the Daily Citizen mentioning the Delta Hills Continuum of Care statistics on homelessness in the area, and I was blown away by the great need right in White County."

Armed with those statistics, she distributed articles to local media over the next few months and held a couple of town meetings to gauge the interest. "I knew it had to be a community-based and community-led project for it to last. Students do well, but the turnover in leadership positions is too much for a huge undertaking like this," she says.

She spoke with the regional Habitat contact to learn a little bit more about what it would take to start a chapter. Arkansas First Lady Janet Huckabee, who has been extensively involved in Habitat, addressed a group of interested community members.

"After a few meetings, we had enough interest built," Mount says. "We started with the paperwork, and it has been peo-

Hillary Mount's top five reasons that Harding and Habitat for Humanity are a good fit

1

Working with Habitat for Humanity strengthens the University's relationship with the community. Students serving together with people from the community help to strengthen a bond that the University has been forming for years with projects like Day of Service.

2

Habitat is a national organization, so it provides students with long-term opportunities for public service. As students graduate, they can find chapters all over the world through which to volunteer.

3

Habitat provides students with real-world experiences for their future careers — architecture, urban planning, social work and public relations, to name a few.

4

The University has many groups that enjoy working on service projects throughout the year. The potential exists to have at least one group of students assisting with a build each weekend. The many hands that students can lend could give Habitat for Humanity of White County the chance to have multiple building sites in progress at one time.

5

University students have a passion and energy that fit well with the community members working with Habitat. Community leadership worked very hard to make Habitat a reality, and students also have this dedication and energy. These efforts will help reach the goal of alleviating homelessness in White County.

Mount is completing her first year of school at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. She is interested in emergency medicine and family medicine and hopes to help with medical missions in the future.

I ♥ HABITAT

ple like Paula Petty and the rest of the board members who did all the work in bringing Habitat to White County."

The Catch was the Student Association's event to raise funds for Habitat for Humanity of White County. It featured a weekend-long softball game, live bands and entertainment, contests, carnival-type booths, and "The Dugout" — a mock town where students built low-cost

shelters to survive in for the weekend. Held March 31-April 2, the effort raised close to \$8,000, which will help build the first Habitat home in White County.

Huckabee was on campus Friday, March 31, as part of the event. She congratulated students for being willing to partner with the organization and said such a willingness to serve their community will remain a natural response

throughout their lives. "When they get involved, they will see a need and say, 'Oh, yeah. Let's do that.'"

In reference to The Catch and news of students' involvement in hurricane relief efforts through Spring Break campaigns, Huckabee says, "It's like being a parent. It makes me very, very proud of them. Too often we only hear the bad things about people." **H**

"It's like being a parent. It makes me very, **VERY PROUD** of them." Janet Huckabee

Send your alumni news to "Connections," Harding University Office of Alumni Relations, Box 10768, Searcy, AR 72149-0768; or e-mail alumninews@harding.edu. To subscribe to the weekly e-mail listserv *Alumni Digest*, send message, including your name and class year, to alumni-list@harding.edu. You may post messages to the *Digest* at the same address.

1946

Platinum Circle
Reunion at Homecoming 2006

1956

Golden Circle
Reunion at Homecoming 2006

1957

Lois Robertson Schwartz ('60), has established an endowed scholarship in honor of her husband, **Stanley S. Schwartz**, M.D., who died Jan. 19, 2005. The scholarship will be awarded to students majoring in



premedicine who demonstrate financial need. Those wishing to honor him may contribute to the Stanley S. Schwartz, M.D., Endowed Scholarship Fund of Harding University. Please send contributions to HU Box 12238, Searcy, AR 72149-2238. The family will be notified of gifts received.

1961

Reunion at Homecoming 2006

1963

Charlene Babb Knadle is an associate professor of English at Suffolk County Community College. She has written a romantic suspense novel, *Paper Lovers*, and contributed the Pat Conroy section to the 11-volume library



reference work, *Popular Contemporary Writers*. She also has a poetry chapbook, *Dandelion Sleeves*. She and her husband, Richard, have two children. (316 Vanderbilt Parkway, Dix Hills, NY 11746)

1966

Reunion at Homecoming 2006

1970

Phillip F. Elliott was named Dis-

tinguished Faculty Member of the Year in May 2005 at Eastern Connecticut State University. Elliott joined the biology faculty in 1977 and was promoted to the rank of full professor in 1988. In addition to teaching courses in biostatistics, animal behavior and other topics, he has developed and led off-campus field courses and currently directs the tropical biology field course in Belize. He is also director of the Honors Program. He and his wife, **Jamie Garrett** ('73), have two daughters, **Erin Christopher** ('00) and **Kathryn Dean** ('02). (55 Old 89 Road, Lebanon, CT 06249)

Bonnie Dailey Weber has retired from teaching after 35 years in Warren Local Schools. (607 O'Neal St., Belpre, OH 45714)

1971

Reunion at Homecoming 2006

1976

Reunion at Homecoming 2006

J. Michael Kirksey is chief financial officer of SIRVA Inc., where he oversees the operations of the

firm's global financial team. He and his wife, **Debi Baten** ('76), have two sons, **Ryan** ('02) and **Jason** ('04). (14803 Tumbling Falls, Houston, TX 77062)

1977

Chuck Archer has been named recipient of the Muscular Dystrophy Association's 2006 Personal Achievement Award for MDA's Arkansas Chapter. He retired in 2006 from the Department of Human Services. He volunteers as a coach with Upwards Basketball; is vice president of Southwest Service Dogs, where he helps with demonstrations and publicity; and has done volunteer work for Special Olympics. Chuck and his wife, **Marcella Brooks** ('75), became foster parents in 1993 and have adopted four boys. He also has a daughter. (100 Quail Valley Road, Sherwood, AR 72120)

Robert DuPont is a high school Bible teacher at Lubbock Christian School. He is also minister at Meadow Church of Christ and teaches private guitar lessons.

(325 S. 12th St., Slaton, TX 79364)
Betty Stroup Green is a nurse for Red Cross Blood Services in San Diego. Her husband, Don, is a patent agent. (2030 Acacia Drive, San Marcos, CA 92078)

1980

Tim Gentry was Salesman of the Year in 2005 for JTG Interprizes, where he set a new corporate annual sales record. He and his wife, Clara, have two children. (3191 Hawthorne Circle, Southside, AL 35907)

1981

Reunion at Homecoming 2006

1982

Greg Posey has been promoted to CEO of GCP Industries. He and his wife, Kelly, have four children. (324 Posey Trail, Mountain Home, AR 72653)

1986

Reunion at Homecoming 2006
Cary Gilbert manages the Los Angeles regional online advertising

sales division at Yahoo Inc. (7985 Santa Monica Blvd., #268, Los Angeles, CA 90046)

1988

Lynnette Shields is an art teacher at Ezell Harding Christian School. (334 Mountain High Drive, Antioch, TN 37013)

1991

Reunion at Homecoming 2006

Lisa Ort Harris has recently released three Christian fiction books: *Adam's Bride*, *Sweet Home Alabama* and *Recipe for Murder*. Her husband, **Scott**, is a missionary with African Outreach Ministry. They have three children. (P.O. Box 506, Diuwelskloof, South Africa)

Kristine Witzeling Morris is pursuing a master of nursing education degree at Texas Woman's University. Her husband, Marshall, is youth minister at Prestoncrest Church of Christ. They have three children. (8901 Smokey Drive, Plano, TX 75025)

1992

Elizabeth Crockett Rose was awarded the Donald R. Rye Humanitarian and Caring Person Award at the Arkansas Counseling Association 60th Annual Conference in Hot Springs. She is the high school counselor for Bald Knob School District. She has served on the American Counseling Association Annual Conference program review committee and represented Arkansas as a Southern Region delegate. Her involvement in the Arkansas Counseling Association includes receiving the ARCA Commitment to Excellence Award, a presidential term, Leadership Manual committee chair, Conference Exhibits committee co-chair, and Publicity chair. She also has held the office of president in the Arkansas Vocational Guidance Association. She and her husband, **Steve** ('93), have a son. (214 Fairway St., Rose Bud, AR 72137)

His wife, **Brenda Vallette** ('92), is in graduate school at the University of Cincinnati. They have three children. (106 Freesia Drive, Dayton, OH 45431)

1994

Stephanie Lawrence has been named a Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year. She is a special education teacher at Cowsert Elementary School. (P.O. Box 153, Clinton, CA 92031)

1996

Reunion at Homecoming 2006

Joel Davis is a marriage and family therapist providing counseling and support for families who have children with developmental disabilities. He and his wife, Laurie, have twin sons. (6715 66th Ave. E., Bradenton, FL 34203)

1998

Aaron Brister is head baseball coach and kinesiology chair at Emmanuel College. He and his wife, Billie Jean, have two daughters. (P.O. Box 129, Franklin

ALMA MATTERS

Traveling the globe

By LIZ HOWELL, director of alumni relations

HARDING TRAVEL CLUB CONTINUES the tradition of offering trips to alumni and friends. Now, with the addition of the Travel Services Office, the University can plan more exciting and affordable destinations. Bill Spear and Patricia Berry bring years of expertise in the travel business and give us a competitive edge in leisure travel.



Liz Howell

Last summer the club ventured to the interior of Alaska and cruised the inside passage, enjoying the breathtaking natural beauty of the 49th state. The Alaskan cruise continues to be one of the most popular travel destinations, and we will book this trip again. In June more than 40 people will journey with us through New England and Canada while visiting points of interest from Boston to Montreal.

Glenn ('57) and Suzanne Organ of Bay City, Texas, have been on five University trips. Glenn explains, "We have traveled extensively with Christian and non-Christian groups, and there is a tremendous difference. The biggest reason that we like traveling with the Harding group is sharing the experience with other

Christians and alumni. We have an instant bond that creates a very relaxing atmosphere. Another selling point is the confidence that the Harding group has our best interests at heart. We know that we are not going to be overcharged or undersupplied, and we fully enjoy everything that we do on the trips."

Another new service is University Travel Benefits, which connects alumni to more than 3,500 resorts in 80-plus countries. Benefits include one-week condominium stays for \$349. Make plans for a dream vacation using off-season and short-notice rental specials or call 1-888-729-3842 and talk to a vacation guide about great seasonal rates at thousands of resorts. You may also visit the Web site at: www.universitytravelbenefits.com/harding.asp. Please give the University's identification number of AAR-004 when you book your vacation.

Plans considered for next year include a visit to one or more of the University's international campuses. If you would like to recommend venues or want to know more about Harding Travel Club, please contact me at 1-800-477-4312, Ext. 1. **H**

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? ... GREG HURST 1981

The news you need

GREG HURST IS AN EXPERT IN TIME MANAGEMENT. As principal anchor for the 5, 6 and 10 p.m. newscasts at Houston's KHOU-TV, he has to be. His greatest challenge? "Trying to squeeze in all the news in a 30-minute newscast," he says without pause.

For more than 20 years, Hurst, who holds a bachelor's degree in mass communication and journalism, has delivered news to the public, beginning at Little Rock's KATV. And over time, from Arkansas to California to New York to Texas, he has witnessed a transformation in the field — namely the influence of technology.

"Because of the advance of satellite, everything is right before your eyes," he says. "We still used film at KATV; now we are live." Nonetheless, he stresses that despite technology's usefulness, it does not replace the vital role people play in reporting.

He has covered the war in Iraq, Washington politics and earthquakes in California and has traveled to such places as Baghdad, the Kremlin and war ruins in Vietnam. However, he names Sept. 11, 2001, as the event with the

greatest impact on his career.

"The attack of the World Trade Center changed the way we do our job, the way we live our lives," he says. "[Now] we always ask if it's related to terrorism."

And what of the belief that people have lost faith in the media? "Actually, they may be more trusting," he says. "The general public is smart enough to distinguish between fact and opinion." However, he admits, no matter how hard a reporter works to remain neutral, people still accuse him or her of bias.



Greg Hurst then (left) and now

In striving for fairness and objectivity, he turns to research and plans for the future. "In my job, I take pride in preparation. I'm always gathering information on current events, things that can happen," he says. "Preparation is the key to success." **H** — Jennifer L. Marcussen



TOP PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY, BOTTOM PHOTO COURTESY OF THE COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

Springs, GA 30639)
Eric Whittington is a foreign service officer with the Department of State at the U.S. Embassy in Armenia. (7020 Yerevan Place, Dulles, VA 20189)

1999

Brian Polk has been named athletic director and head football coach at Van Alstyne High School. He is married to **Jennifer Herlong** ('00). (2701 Travis Drive, McKinney, TX 75070)

2000

Stefanie Glenn received a master's degree in drama from Texas Woman's University in May 2005 and is resident stage manager at Artisan Center Theatre in Hurst, Texas. (7516 Pear Tree Lane, Fort Worth, TX 76133)

2001

Reunion at Homecoming 2006
Michael Givens has received the status of diplomate in the American College of Healthcare

Executives, allowing him the designation of board certified healthcare executive. He was promoted to vice president of patient services at St. Bernards Medical Center in Jonesboro, Ark. His wife, **Ashleigh Short** ('99), is a youth minister at Southwest Church of Christ. (2101 Manchester Drive, Jonesboro, AR 72401)

Eric Johns recently opened Johns Insurance Agency in Brentwood, Tenn., representing Allstate Insurance Co. His wife, Rebecca, is an internal auditor with HCA Healthcare. (205 Sugarberry Court, Nashville, TN 37211)

Matt Shaner has joined The Com-



munications Group as a public relations specialist. A member of the Public Relations Society of America, he is married to **Jennifer Keene** ('05). (5315 Southwood Road, Little Rock, AR 72205)

2002

Renee Culbertson was selected for inclusion in the 2005-06 edition of the Manchester *Who's Who Registry of Executives and Professionals*. She is a licensed social worker/clinician at House of New Hope. (1242 L Sheridan Drive, Lancaster, OH 43130)

Marriages

Catherine Wiltse ('98) to Barry Brake, April 3, 2004. Catherine received her master's degree in history and is a researcher at Industrial Foundation of America. Barry is a self-employed composer. (10019 Sahara, San Antonio, TX 78216)

Tammie Shivers ('83) to Dwayne Love, Sept. 18, 2004. (6019 Colony-hill Drive, Bartlett, TN 38135)

Rachel Hall ('97) to Allen Nolan, Oct. 24, 2004. Rachel is an art teacher at Tulip Grove Elementary, and Allen is a plumber at Hiller Plumbing. (901 Fairwin Ave., Nashville, TN 37216)

David Adcox III ('88) to Sandra Landgren, March 18, 2005. They both work at Centura Health. David is a respiratory therapist, and Sandra is a registered nurse. (P.O. Box 2366, Pueblo, CO 81004)

Shannon Starks ('02) to Greg Davis, April 10, 2005. (1 Lynnwood, Searcy, AR 72143)

Whitney Leach ('01) to Justin Hardy, April 23, 2005. (100 Marsey Lane, Homewood, AL 35209)

Jeanna Hardy ('86) to Jeff Sitton, May 28, 2005. Jeanna is pre-K resource coordinator for Walker County Schools, and Jeff works for Shaw Industries in accounting. (352 Pond Springs Road, Chickamauga, GA 30707)

Carla Shehorn ('01) to Shane Ireland, June 4, 2005. (3007 Interlacken Drive, Springfield, IL 62704)

Amy Franchina ('96) to Brian Stout, June 9, 2005. Amy is a high school English teacher for Hurst-Euless-Bedford Schools. (1344 Shady Lane, #704, Bedford, TX 76021)

Jonathan Schallert ('05) to **Mary Catherine Clark** ('05), July 9, 2005. They are both graduate students at the University of Memphis. Jon is studying orchestral conducting, and Mary Catherine is studying clinical nutrition. (8497 Prestine Loop, #205, Cordova, TN 38018)

PROFILE: BRAD BRADLEY 1983

Capitalizing on opportunity

AFTER SELLING THE COMPANY HE BUILT into a multibillion-dollar lending operation, Charles "Brad" Bradley has started again with only 50 employees and his entrepreneurial vision.

Bradley, who was founder, chairman and CEO of EquiFirst Corp. from 1990-1998, took some time off before launching the subprime mortgage company Senderra Funding in Charlotte, N.C., in 2005. He considered other options but decided to return to the challenging task of starting a company from scratch. "What I really loved doing and what I have a passion for is building companies," he says.

Under Bradley's leadership, EquiFirst grew from a small mortgage lender with less than \$5 million in annual volume into a multibillion-dollar company. He says the key to success is "surrounding yourself with people who are better than you, hard work, and not thinking that you have all the answers," and adds that he hopes Senderra will grow during the next few years into a national mortgage lender.

While building momentum for new companies is challenging, Bradley says it is a lot of fun. "I enjoy it. It's what I do. Some people build cars, some people build houses and some people build companies."

Bradley's position also affords him opportunities to work in the community. He serves on the board of the University's American Studies Institute; on the board of directors for Hope Cancer Ministries in Charlotte, N.C.; as a cabinet member for Charlotte Pregnancy Care Center; on the board of advisers for the Witherspoon Fellowship in Washington, D.C.; and on the board of directors for the Center for a Just Society in Washington, D.C. **H**

— Sarah Brown



Brad Bradley

Jennifer Terry ('90) to Michael Vice, Sept. 24, 2005. (2306 Avenal Court, Murfreesboro, TN 37064)

Kimberly Garner ('91) to Kevin Parker, Oct. 22, 2005. Kimberly is a senior sales representative with GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals, and Kevin is a professor at Harvard University. (14 Mellen St., #2, Cambridge, MA 02138)

Maria Reynolds ('89) to Brian Smith, Oct. 22, 2005. Maria is a music teacher for Dayton Public School District, and Brian works for Sycamore Hospital in Dayton, Ohio. (2625 Colonial Ave., Kettering, OH 45419)

Rachel Savage ('04) to Eugene Coffman, Nov. 12, 2005. (599 C.R. 838, Green Forest, AR 72638)

Jennifer Holt ('05) to Greg DeMario, Dec. 23, 2005. Jennifer is a sixth-grade math and science teacher at Jacksonville Boys Mid-

dle School in Jacksonville, Ark., and Greg is pursuing a degree in public relations at Harding. (401 E. Booth Road, #206, Searcy, AR 72143)

Karen Hinds ('02) to Jared Jones, Dec. 27, 2005. (4842 Tiara Drive, #204, Huntington Beach, CA 92649)

Michael McCubbin ('05) to **Mary Grace Mathis** ('04), Dec. 31, 2005. Mary attends Southern School of Optometry. (684 Harbor Edge Circle, #102, Memphis, TN 38103)

Daniela Ciliberti ('04) to Ryan Nichols, Jan. 7. Daniela is a teacher at Woodmont Hills Church of Christ, and Ryan is a sales representative for Softplan and professional drummer. (133 McKays Court, Brentwood, TN 37027)

Kristen Haak ('00) to Brian Stroud, Feb. 11. Kristen received

her master's degree in management with an emphasis in health care management from Troy University. Brian is an intern at Memorial Road Church of Christ and is finishing his master's degree in general ministry from Oklahoma Christian University. (2113 Rockpoint Drive, Edmond, OK 73003)

Charlie Marcussen ('98) to **Jennifer Lashley** ('01), Feb. 18. Charlie is the business operations manager at Capstone Treatment Center, and Jennifer is a publications writer in the Public Relations Office at Harding. (406 S. Sherwood Drive, #7, Searcy, AR 72143)

Births

To **Don** ('90) and **Laura Ruggles** ('89) **Frost**, a daughter, Kiley Afton, Dec. 6, 2004. They also have a son, Zane. Don works for Little Rock Anesthesia as an anesthesiologist, and Laura is a homemaker. (2705 Ozark Drive, North Little Rock, AR 72116)

To **Benjamin** ('97) and **Randie Seeber** ('98) **Patterson**, a son, Luke Benjamin, Dec. 6, 2004. They also have a daughter, Elyse. (2 Valley Court, St. Clair, MO 63077)

To **Jeremy** ('98) and **Veronica Sims** ('95) **Stephenson**, a daughter, Sydney Noëlle, Dec. 13, 2004. Jeremy is a law student, and Veronica is a teacher for Enterprise City Schools. (101 Cambridge Road, Enterprise, AL 36330)

To **Jesse** ('95) and **Lisa Badgley** ('93) **Pollard**, a daughter, Hope Anne, Jan. 7, 2005. They have two other children, Parker and Will. (2 Gelan Court, Little Rock, AR 72223)

To **Nathan** ('96) and **Shannon Holland** ('00) **Lamb**, a daughter, Haleigh Marie, Jan. 20, 2005. Nathan is a sales representative for Reliable Life Insurance, and Shannon works for Dr. Jamie Meyers as a surgery assistant. (326 Kent Ave., Palestine, TX 75803)

To **Marc** ('98) and **Christa McCarty** ('98) **Wolfe**, a son, Braden Gray, Feb. 4, 2005. They have four other children, Kaylynn, Landon, Logan and Easton. Marc is a captain in the U.S. Air Force. (103 Glacier Drive, #1, Minot AFB, ND 58704)

To **Glenn** ('94) and **Tara Hollis**, a daughter, Ella Maurine, March 16, 2005. They have another

daughter, Claudia. Glenn is a farmer, and he and Tara are both sales agents at AIG American General. (141 Adkins Place, Haynesville, LA 71038)

To **Michael** ('97) and **Gigi Graham** ('96) **Wagner**, a son, Chase Michael, March 23, 2005. Michael is an anesthesia resident, and Gigi is an ENT attending, both at Oklahoma University Medical Center. (1709 Timberview Drive, Edmond, OK 73013)

To **Robert** ('98) and **Jennifer Long** ('97) **Loffink**, a son, James Loyd, March 24, 2005. Robert is a commercial banker at US Bank, and Jennifer is a homemaker. (16520 N.E. 19th St., Vancouver, WA 98684)

To **David** ('87) and **Janelle McFarland** ('92) **White**, a son, Christopher, April 3, 2005. (449 Westcrest Drive, Nashville, TN 37211)

To **Greg** and **Glenda Conley** ('95) **Eckert**, a son, John Richard, April 6, 2005. Greg is a carpenter at Lantrip Construction, and Glenda is a bleeding disorders nurse practitioner at University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. (20 Fieldcrest Circle, Cabot, AR 72023)

To **Seth** ('00) and **Lovie Watson** ('99) **Sellers**, a son, Tobin Zakary, April 14, 2005. Seth is a veterinarian at Macon County Veterinary Hospital, and Lovie is a homemaker. (555 Rose Hill Road, Red Boiling Springs, TN 37150)

To **Douglas** ('95) and **Ana Bonilla** ('93) **Seglem**, a son, Anthony, April 26, 2005. They have two other children, Carolyn and Eric. Douglas is a resident physician, and Ana is a homemaker. (12531 Minuteman, San Antonio, TX 78233)

To **Brad** ('00) and **Gretchen Simmons** ('00) **Fortson**, a son, Dayton Hoyle, May 5, 2005. They have another son, Drew. Brad is team leader at Countrywide Mortgage, and Gretchen is a homemaker. (916 Post Oak Trail, Anna, TX 75409)

To **Kenny** ('02) and **Jamey Jones** ('01) **Simpson**, a daughter, Avery Dean, May 20, 2005. Kenny is a teacher and coach at Madison Academy, and Jamey is a homemaker. (124 Sanibel Circle, Madison, AL 35757)

To **Jared** ('97) and **Mary Riley** ('97) **Turner**, a daughter, Anna Riley, May 23, 2005. They also have a son, Caleb. Jared is a chemist at Tate & Lyle, and Mary

is an assistant professor of chemistry at Maryville College. (507 Cardinal St., Maryville, TN 37803)

To **Eric** and **Kathleen Eyman** ('91) **Manchin**, a son, Luke Henry, June 2, 2005. Eric is an attorney with Kaeske Law Firm, and Kathleen is a self-employed attorney. (6455 Vanderbilt Ave., Dallas, TX 75214)

To **Robert** ('99) and **Jill Stanley** ('00) **Lester**, a daughter, Addison Layne, June 8, 2005. They have another daughter, Avery. Robert is a physician at OWASA Family Medicine, and Jill is a homemaker. (58 Trillium Trail, Rome, GA 30165)

To **Mike** ('96) and **Jennifer Smith** ('97) **White**, a son, Andrew Stephen, June 10, 2005. They also have a daughter, Madison. Mike is director of guidance at West-

bury Christian School, and Jennifer is a teacher in the Alief Independent School District. (3542 Duncaster, Missouri City, TX 77459)

To **Jeremy** ('99) and **Leanne Burchfield** ('99) **Pumphrey**, a daughter, Lauren Claire, June 11, 2005. Jeremy is grid coordinator at Acxiom, and Leanne is a homemaker. (1545 Freyaldenhoven Lane, Conway, AR 72032)

To **Jeff** and **Danielle Hallmark** ('98) **Senske**, a daughter, Nora Sabine, June 24, 2005. They also have a son, Eli. Jeff is assistant general manager at Aquarium Design Group, and Danielle is a second-grade teacher in the Alief Independent School District. (6006 Vicki John, Houston, TX 77096)

To **Mark** and **Tracy Jennings** ('92)

PROFILE: KAY PALMER 1985

An IT 'it' woman

COMPUTERWORLD THINKS HIGHLY OF KAY PALMER. In addition to being selected as a 2006 Premier 100 IT Leader, a Best in Class honoree, and keynote speaker at the awards program, she has graced the pages of the publication in news stories and editorials.

Palmer is executive vice president and chief information officer for J.B. Hunt Transport Services Inc., an organization she has served since 1988. The company's trucking unit, which has a fleet of about 4,300 tractors, provides freight transportation service in North America. Palmer's job is to work with the company to set a strategy for how technology is to be used to improve business. This includes everything from application development and software selection to the in-cab units and trailer-tracking equipment.

"In general, you're looking at a business problem and trying to solve it," she says. "For instance, a problem within the whole country is that we don't have enough drivers. So we look at how to use technology better to address that."

Computerworld recognized her for developing a centralized system for more than 150 customized PC-based applications for payroll, billing and management reporting. She was one of 12 selected from the Premier 100 IT Leaders for The Best in Class honor, presented in March at the conference for which she was one of six keynote speakers.

"Cooperative" is how Palmer describes her style of management of the IT department, which comprises 330 employees. "My general style is to try to develop guidelines and direction, then let people take ownership for their own area. In the current environment, the biggest challenge is that there is so much innovation. You have to strike a balance between innovation and governance." **H**

— April M. Fatula



Kay Palmer

PHOTO COURTESY OF J.B. HUNT

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

To Jeff and **Marcy Winters** ('95) **Fielder**, a daughter, Lexi Faith, July 25, 2005. (5 Cherry Crest Cove, Little Rock, AR 72211)

To Jonathan and **Susan Bryan** ('84) **Willingham**, a daughter, Luci, in August 2005, by adoption. She was born Oct. 26, 2004, in China. They also have two sons, Bryan and J.T. (200 County Road 326, Florence, AL 35634)

To Set and **Kristin Coleman** ('99) **Gómez**, a daughter, Rachel Juanita, Aug. 2, 2005. (109 Catcher Road, Van Buren, AR 72956)

To Simon and **Ruth Howe** ('04) **Hardy**, a son, Thomas William, Aug. 2, 2005. (7 Russell St., Loughborough, Leicestershire, UK LE11 1BH)

To Simon and **Tamra Spencer** ('93) **Larter**, a son, Andrew Kai, Aug. 3, 2005. (1415 S. Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19147)

To Christopher and **Beth Kerr** ('91) **Morris**, a son, Bryce Christopher, Aug. 19, 2005. Christopher is a self-employed contractor, and Beth is a child support specialist with the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources. (5840 State Route 646, Bloomingdale, OH 43910)

To **Presten** ('01) and Margaret **Witherspoon**, a daughter, Cassandra Grace, Sept. 2, 2005. (927 Harrington, Cedar Hill, TX 75104)

To **Matthew** ('97) and **Valerie Dayhoff** ('98) **Dixon**, a son, Hayden Avery, Sept. 8, 2005. Matthew is a self-employed custom home builder, and Valerie is a family and consumer sciences teacher in the Conewago Valley School District. (1517 Jacobs Mill Road, Hanover, PA 17331)

To **Jimmy** ('02) and **Ashley Singleton** ('02) **Allen**, a son, Caleb Cotton, Sept. 9, 2005. (578 Highway 299, Emmet, AR 71835)

To **Brandon** ('02) and **Amber Huey** ('00) **Fergusson**, a son, Elan Wyatt, Sept. 12, 2005. Brandon is pursuing a master's degree in agricultural and biosystems engineering at University of Arizona, and Amber is a registered nurse at Tucson Medical Center. (3716 N. Mountain Ave., #2, Tucson, AZ 85719)

To **Randy** ('99) and **Beth Moss** ('00) **Whitman**, a daughter, Ainsley Grace, Sept. 12, 2005. They have another daughter, Abby. (235 High Chaperal Drive, Goodlettsville, TN 37072)

To **Wayne** ('97) and Samantha

Drama researcher seeks assistance

IF YOU HAVE EVER GRACED the University stage, Dr. Morris Ellis needs your help. He is researching Harding drama productions from the beginning days in Morrilton through today. His list is available online at www.harding.edu/mellis/drama.pdf. Please contact him with corrections or additions at mellis@harding.edu or (501) 279-4634.



Allen, a daughter, Lila Seanne, Sept. 13, 2005. (9824 Fillmore Drive, McKinney, TX 75070)

To **Gary** ('00) and **Laura Wallace** ('00) **Bull**, a son, Nathan Wallace, Sept. 13, 2005. They are part of a mission team working in Bolivia. (Casilla 575, Cochabamba, Bolivia)

To Eric and **Jennifer Strader** ('97) **Dorminey**, a son, Harris Reagan Daniel, Sept. 26, 2005. They also have a daughter, McKenna. (710 Windrow Drive, Sumter, SC 29150)

To **James** ('95) and **Holly Watson** ('96) **Conrad**, a son, Will, Sept. 28, 2005. They have another son, Ben. James is staff attorney, probate court, for Harris County, and Holly is a homemaker. (2502 Ray St., Pearland, TX 77581)

To **Aaron** ('95) and **Summer McCain** ('98) **Kite**, a son, Holden Lyle, Oct. 5, 2005. Aaron is an attorney for Rebein Bangerter,

P.A., and Summer is a homemaker. (1901 Elbow Bend, Dodge City, KS 67801)

To **Jeff** ('98) and **Cara Gregory** ('96) **Baker**, a son, Charles Anderson, Oct. 6, 2005. (1159 Grey-stone Place, Ashland City, TN 37015)

To **Darrin** ('98) and **Heather Hen-son** ('97) **Shepherd**, a daughter, Lillian Grace, Oct. 15, 2005. Darrin is control center specialist for GEICO, and Heather is unit leader with Creative Memories. (11197 Freedom Court, Bealeton, VA 22712)

To **Luk** ('01) and **Holly Nelson** ('00) **Brazle**, a son, Gideon Thomas, Oct. 18, 2005. Luk and Holly are missionaries in Belgium. (Plankenbergsstraat 141, Deurne 2100)

To Rodrigo and **Monica Torres** ('97) **Navarro**, a daughter, Vania Desiree, Oct. 22, 2005. Rodrigo is

a product engineer at Eaton, and Monica is a buyer specialist at Jabil Circuit. (Apartado Postal 79-003, Mexico City 06722, MX)

To Lane and **Mary Bowers** ('99) **Brown**, a son, Alan Dane, Oct. 25, 2005. (327 Lake Travis Drive, Wylie, TX 75098)

To **Brett** ('03) and **April Gillespie** ('00) **Emerson**, a son, Caden Darrell, Oct. 25, 2005. Brett is a high school English teacher at Light-house Christian Academy. (2200 Vaughn Lakes Blvd., # 1833, Montgomery, AL 36117)

To **Kevin** ('97) and **Jenelle Lipca-mon** ('99) **Parrish**, a son, Daniel Allyn, Oct. 30, 2005. Kevin is a general accounting supervisor at Quincy Compressor, and Jenelle is a medical transcriptionist at Blessing Corporate Services. (423 E. 2700th St., Liberty, IL 62347)

To **Matt** ('95) and **Jenny Adamson** ('95) **Smith**, a son, Robert James, Nov. 3, 2005. They have two other children, Emma and Brandon. (1917 W. Arch St., Searcy, AR 72143)

To Jody and **Janette Underhill** ('01) **DeWitt**, a son, Ryan Matthew, Nov. 5, 2005. Jody works in human resources for Briggs and Stratton, and Janette is a medical tech for Hart-Capps Ophthalmology. (122 Locust Grove Road, Murray, KY 42071)

To Kyle and **Hettie Odell** ('96) **Harless**, a son, Samuel Jamison, Nov. 8, 2005, by adoption. They have another son, Ezekiel. (773 Ardmore Lane, Shelbyville, KY 40065)

To Charles and **Rebecca Shannon** ('86) **Dorris**, a daughter, Zola Min, Nov. 13, 2005, by adoption. She was born Jan. 26, 2005, in Tonggu, China. They have two other daughters, Zara and Zena, also from China. (6101 Johnson Chapel Road, Brentwood, TN 37027)

To **Daryl** ('96) and **Rebecca Folk-erts** ('96) **Rodgers**, a daughter, Siena Bridget, Nov. 15, 2005. (2607 Heritage Drive, Champaign, IL 61822)

To **Kendall** ('95) and **Tammy Johnson** ('98) **Doan**, a son, Ethan Thomas, Nov. 17, 2005. They also have a daughter, Emma. (380 Woodsdale Drive, Monroe, OH 45050)

To Brandon and **Shelly Davis** ('96) **George**, a daughter, Brielle Kathleen, Nov. 18, 2005. (411 Chancellorsville, Mesquite, TX 75149)

To **Kenyon** ('95) and **Anna Pettit**

('95) **Fletcher**, a son, Ryan Ash-ton, Nov. 23, 2005. (2615 Ash-leigh Lane, Alpharetta, GA 30004)

To Matthew and **Jennifer Rein-inger** ('99) **Sleppy**, a daughter, Molly Ellen, Dec. 2, 2005. Matthew is a self-employed chiropractor, and Jennifer is an emergency room registered nurse at Indiana Regional Med-ical Center. (2901 Nolo Road, Penn Run, PA 15765)

To **Chris** ('04) and **Sarah Davidson** ('03) **Teo**, a son, Luca Wei-An, Dec. 6, 2005. (144 Roosevelt, Irvine, CA 92620)

To Randy and **Shea Rinehart** ('99) **Holstead**, a daughter, Zoie Grace, Dec. 7, 2005. Randy is a state trooper with the Louisiana State Police, and Shea is an emergency room nurse at Lincoln General Hospital. (1155 Pipes Road, Rus-ton, LA 71270)

To **Pacer** ('99) and **Janet Jordan** ('94) **Blevins**, a son, Austin Jordan, Dec. 16, 2005. They also have three daughters, Ashley, Amy and Abbey. (712 Lakeside Landing Court, Evans, GA 30809)

To **Frédéric** and **Alisa Lundy** ('99) **Cognard**, a son, Benjamin Pierre, Dec. 16, 2005. (2 place de l'Echi-quier, Villiers le Bel, France 95400)

To Ryan and **Renate Selvidge** ('91) **Palmer**, a daughter, Madelyn Grace, Dec. 17, 2005. They also have two sons, Benjamin and Jackson. (920 E. Harwell St., Phoenix, AZ 85042)

To Jason and **Julie Green** ('92) **Priest**, a daughter, Dyllan, Dec. 26, 2005. They have two other children, Kennedy and Zachary. Jason is associate director at SBC, and Julie is a homemaker. (7315 Shannon Lane, Mabelvale, AR 72103)

To **Richard** ('93) and **Angie Smith** ('96) **Proctor**, a son, William Gregory, Dec. 30, 2005. They also have a daughter, AnMarie. Richard is quality service man-ager at Lennar Homes, and Angie is therapeutic director at Boles Children's Home. (7002 PR 3547, Quinlan, TX 75474)

To Brent and **Kelli Sheets** ('97) **Bigham**, a daughter, Rachel Joyce, Jan. 2, 2005. Brent works in informa-tion technology for the U.S. State Department, and Kelli is a home-maker. (43865 Paramount Place, Chantilly, VA 20152)

To **Steve** ('00) and **Melissa Martin** ('02) **Mezzapelle**, a daughter, An-gelina Eve, Jan. 5, 2005. They have an-other daughter, Isabella. Steve is a client services representative at GovDeals.com, and Melissa is a

FOCUS ON THE FUTURE: ENDOWMENT The first President's Endowed Scholarship

By DONALD E. KEE, director of the Center for Charitable Estate Planning

ED AND PAULA DEYOUNG OF DALLAS recently established and funded the first President's Endowed Scholarship. In naming the scholar-ship, the DeYongs elected to honor Paula's parents, Hank and Sue Tankersley of Paducah, Ky., for their many years of service to their church and community. The Tankersleys are semiretired after serving more than 50 years in churches in Ten-nessee, Louisiana, Arkansas and Texas. They have six children, 15 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren, many of whom are alumni.

Ed DeYoung is a senior partner in the law firm of Locke, Liddell & Sapp, and Paula volunteers her time to charita-ble and civic pro-jects. In addition to the University, the couple supports the United Way of Dallas, the Dallas Bar Foundation, and the Dallas Museum of Art.

The President's Endowed Scholarship, which requires a gift of \$25,000, is a naming oppor-tunity that encourages the donor to direct funds to a specific college or major and then matches donor with recipient. The \$1,250 need-based annual scholarship will be awarded to an incoming freshman beginning this fall and continue each year until graduation, pro-

vided that student maintains a 3.00 grade point average.

The University will honor donors and recipients of the President's Endowed Scholar-ship at an annual scholars' banquet, giving the DeYongs an opportunity to meet the re-cipient of their investment.

The special investment report that the DeYongs will receive will be twofold: the DeYongs have the opportunity to meet the scholarship recipients, and the students will see philanthropy by University supporters in action.

Donors provide many forms of endowment gifts for the University's mission. No matter what form you choose, you should have cer-tain expectations of the University: to ac-knowledge the gift in writing; to invest the gift prudently with board of trustee oversight; to use the income of the gift according to board policy or the terms and conditions of a written endowment gift agreement between you and Harding; and to provide you with an investment report. The University's policy is to meet these expectations.

If you would like to receive a brochure about the President's Endowed Scholarship program, find out how to make an investment in students through the program, or have any questions, please call (800) 477-4312 or e-mail endowment@harding.edu. **H**

Regional director Dirk Smith contributed to this article.



Donald E. Kee



Hank and Sue Tankersley



Paula and Ed DeYoung

homemaker. (1515 Ridgemont Drive, La Vergne, TN 37086)

To **Tye** ('99) and Jennifer Lane **Clothier**, a son, Austin Lane, Jan. 8, 2005. Tye recently earned an M.S.E. in educational leadership from Arkansas State University and be-came a certified strength and conditioning specialist through the National Strength and Con-ditioning Association. (304 N. Cen-ter, West Memphis, AR 72301)

To William and **C. Jaye Tolleson** ('99) **Mills**, twin daughters, Annie Katherine and Parker Grace, Jan. 10, 2005. (10325 Highland Meadows Circle, # 14-103, Parker, CO 80134)

To **Ron** ('94) and **Holly Hays** ('95) **Sparkman**, a son, Coleman Phillip, Jan. 10, 2005. They have two

other children, Max and Annie. (2826 Colonial Circle, Nashville, TN 37214)

To **Jeff** ('99) and **Erin Nordin** ('99) **Harsh**, a daughter, Mia Carolynn, Jan. 11, 2005. They have another daughter, Macy. Jeff is a math teacher and head wrestling coach at Greater Atlanta Christian School and is working on a spe-cialist in education leadership de-gree from Georgia State University. Erin is a homemaker. (3161 Justice Mill Court, Lawrenceville, GA 30044)

To Eric and **Renée Benson** ('93) **Livingood**, a son, Ethan Ryan, Jan. 11, 2005. They have another son, Andrew. Eric is director of finan-cial reporting, and Renée is a

computer programmer, both at CIGNA. (9237 Leaf Brook Lane, Apison, TN 37302)

To **John** ('96) and **Kim Vickers** ('95) **Harris**, a son, Benjamin Isaac, Jan. 16, 2005. They have two other sons, Jordan and Noah. They are working with Lowell Church of Christ. (5704 W. 175th Ave., Lowell, IN 46356)

To **Ryan** ('97) and **Cortney Mullins** ('97) **Bowman**, a son, Cade Ryan, Jan. 18, 2005. They have another son, Reid. (2709 Woodsgate Drive, Lit-tle Rock, AR 72211)

To **Jimbo** ('91) and **Amy Candace Davis** ('94) **Carr**, a son, Landon Cole, Jan. 19, 2005. Jimbo is senior computer programmer at Accen-ture, and Amy Candace is a regis-

Call for 'small world' submissions

UNIVERSITY ALUMNI can be found all around the globe. So where is the most unlikely place you have ever run into an-other alumnus? Maybe it was a fellow traveler overseas, the



boss at your new job, or the nurse who helped with your child's deliv-ery. *Harding* magazine wants your "small world" stories (no more than 300 words, please) of unlikely meetings and improbable run-ins with other University alumni. Your stories can be e-mailed to harding-mag@harding.edu or mailed to *Harding* magazine, Box 12234, Searcy, AR 72149-2234. We plan to publish the best in a future issue.

TOP PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY, RIGHT PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY, BOTTOM PHOTO BY LIQUID LIBRARY



tered nurse case manager with Texas Association of School Boards. (624 Paso Fino Trail, Cedar Park, TX 78613)

To **Reid** ('93) and **Angela Peters** ('97) **Landes**, a son, Jack Dennington, Jan. 21. They have two other children, Novelynn and Andrew. Reid is an assistant professor of biostatistics at University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, and Angela is a homemaker. (1917 Wagon Wheel Drive, Little Rock, AR 72211)

To **Michael** ('98) and **Amy Christie**, a daughter, Afton Jane, Jan. 25. They also have a son, Cole. (11 Remington Drive, Highland Village, TX 75077)

To **Sergei** ('00) and **Wendy Nickols** ('97) **Brainik**, twins, a daughter, Delaney Reagan Sergeevna, and son, Landon Nickolas Sergeevich, Jan. 30. Sergei is funding manager at Drive Financial Services, and Wendy is a second-grade teacher in the Lake Dallas Independent School District. (4400 Shadow Oak, Corinth, TX 76208)

To **Rhett** ('98) and **Marisa Kee** ('98) **Chandler**, a son, Griggs Wydman, Feb. 2. They also have a daughter, Keely. (2264 Montheimer Cove, Mount Juliet, TN 37122)

To **John** ('01) and **Summer Polk** ('01) **Chesshir**, a son, Stephen Anderson, Feb. 5. They have another son, Samuel. John is a computer programmer at Mainstream Technologies Inc., and Summer is a homemaker. (2235 Destin Drive, Conway, AR 72034)

To **Charley** ('98) and **Lana Lee** ('97) **Moore**, a daughter, Kaitlyn Mary, Feb. 14. They have another daughter, Kylee. Charley earned his MBA at Texas Christian University and is a sales manager at BNSF Railway. Lana is a homemaker. (4916 Navajo Way, Fort Worth, TX 76137)

To **Daniel** ('00) and **Rachael Williams** ('00) **Cherry**, a daughter, Anna Lee, March 3. They also have a son, Corban. (Harding University, Box 12645, Searcy, AR 72149)

To **Randall** ('98) and **Erin Hundley** ('96) **Bowman**, a son, Noah Asher, March 15, by adoption. He was born May 13, 2005. They also have a daughter, Mihaela. Randall is director of information services for the State of Alabama, and Erin is spiritual life director and teacher at Prattville Christian Academy. (23 Forest Trail Court, Millbrook, AL 36054)

Passages

Flossie Harwell Cope ('34), 93, died Nov. 23, 2005. She was the first music major at Harding and lettered in tennis. She taught piano for many years. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Neil** ('34). She is survived by two sons, **Robert** ('62) and **Kenneth** ('69); two daughters, **Myra Starling** ('65) and **Nancy Shewmaker** ('65); five grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

C. W. Bradley ('44), 83, died from a heart attack Aug. 18, 2005. He served as a minister in the churches of Christ for more than 60 years, and his greatest pleasure in life was leading others to Christ. He preached his first sermon at age 18. Upon graduating from Harding, he began a period of mission work in Syracuse, N.Y., and Rockingham, Statesville and Winston Salem, N.C. He left North Carolina in 1963 to attend the Graduate School of Religion in Memphis, Tenn., where he received his master's degree in 1970 and worked with both the Whitehaven and Wooddale congregations. In the early 1980s, while teaching in the Bible department at Freed Hardeman University, he served as pulpit minister for the congregation at Olive Branch, Miss. Although he retired from full-time work in 1998, he continued preaching and serving in various capacities until his death. He was named the 1974 Alumnus of the Year at the Graduate School, where he also received the 1990 Distinguished Pulpit Ministry Award. He and his late wife, **Roberta Brandon** ('45), were married 59 years. He is survived by a son, **Jim** ('82); two daughters, **Susan** ('75) and **Patti Ryan** ('79); two sisters, **Oma Garland** and **Dot Hatchett**; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. Memorials may be made to the C.W. and Roberta Bradley Scholarship Fund at Harding Graduate School of Religion, 1000 Cherry Road, Memphis, TN 38117.

Lester Ray Perrin ('50), 79, died Feb. 17. Upon graduation from high school, he served in the U.S. Army during World War II as part of the Japanese occupation. He coached high school basketball for 10 years. He was head



EVENTS

JUNE

5-30
Summer I
5-July 28
Eight-week Session
8-9
Summer Experience I
17-22
Uplift Session I
23-July 7
Honors Symposium I
24-29
Uplift Session II
30-July 14
Honors Symposium II

JULY

1-6
Uplift, Session III
3-28
Summer II
7-21
Honors Symposium III
13-14
Summer Experience II
14-28
Honors Symposium IV
25-Aug. 4
Colorado Training Center
29
Summer graduation

AUGUST

17-20
Student Impact
21
Classes begin

SEPTEMBER

24-27
Lectureship
28-Oct. 1
Bison Daze
29-30
Family Weekend

OCTOBER

26-28
Homecoming
26-29
Bison Daze

For a complete list of events and contact information, go to www.harding.edu/calendar.

basketball coach at Lubbock Christian College from 1959-1967 and also developed the school's baseball program, serving as coach from 1962-1966. He recruited and supported black



athletes before other Christian colleges and colleges in the Southwest Conference recruited them. Upon his retirement as basketball coach, he became a full-time faculty member, teaching history until retirement in 1996. He was named Teacher of the Year on multiple occasions. The home court for LCU basketball teams is now named for Perrin and LCU's longtime athletic director, Hugh Rhodes, and is known as the Rhodes-Perrin Field House. He was a die-hard sports fan and avid competitor. He loved to golf and played slow-pitch softball with his sons until retiring at age 65. A member of Vandelia Church of Christ since 1959, he served as an elder for 20 years and taught Bible classes for more than 40 years. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, **Elaine Wythe** ('49); four sons, **Doug**, **David**, **Tim** and **Mark**; a daughter, **Emily Rider**; two brothers, **Jerry** ('56) and **Ken** ('55); a sister, **Laura Balcom** ('55); and 11 grandchildren. (5521 26th St., Lubbock, TX 79407)

John Petree ('56), 70, died June 4, 2005. He was a retired lieutenant colonel with the U.S. Air Force. He is survived by his wife, **Clara Nell Waters** ('57); a son, **Timothy** ('83); a daughter **Anne-Marie Little** ('85); a sister, **Ann Ergle** ('57); and six grandchildren. (7814 Braun Way, San Antonio, TX 78250)

R.E. Pitre ('59), 69, died Dec. 9, 2005. He is survived by his wife, **Pat Forsee** ('60); a son, **Chris**; a daughter, **Teresa Cantu**; and two grandchildren. (425 S. Sherwood Forest Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70815)

James R. Martin ('61), 73, died May 17, 2005. He served on the board of directors at Mobile Christian School and was a member of Regency Church of Christ. He is survived by his



wife of 46 years, **Judy Watson** ('61), two daughters, **Laurie Shearer** and **Leslie Nettles**; and two grandchildren. (1366 Spring

Valley Court, Mobile, AL 36693)

Lisa Lange Kee ('66), 60, died Feb. 19. She earned her bachelor of arts degree in English from Arizona State University in 1967, followed by her master of arts degree from Memphis State University in 1969. She was a dedicated high school English/literature teacher for more than 32 years, 24 of which were served at Jackson Christian School. She served 10 years as coach of the school's U.S. Academic Decathlon team, which represented the state of Tennessee in national finals competition in both 1991 and 1996. She also coordinated the school's annual Jog-A-Thon fund-raising campaign for 14 years, raising approximately \$500,000. She was honored multiple times as Jackson Christian School Teacher of the Year. In 1996, she earned the Tennessee Outstanding Achievement Award, presented by Gov. Don Sundquist. She also was named Christian Educator of the Year by the National Christian School Association in 2004, the year she retired from teaching. Most recently, she was honored as the namesake of Jackson Christian School's highest recognition for teachers with the institution of the Lisa Kee Teacher of the Year award. She was a member of North Jackson Church of Christ, where she taught ladies' Bible classes and conducted women's retreats. She is survived by her husband of 38 years, **Jimmy Wayne** ('66); her father, **Robert Lange**; her mother, **Mary Settle**; two sons, **Kevin** ('93) and **Jared** ('02); two daughters, **Laura White** ('98) and **Marisa Chandler** ('98); two sisters, **Sandy Maggio** (her twin) and **Randy Ann Lange**; and two grandchildren. (86 Keelange Cove, Jackson, TN 38503)

Michael Dale Kieffner ('74), 53, died Jan. 29. A graduate of Logan College of Chiropractic, he was a chiropractor in Kennett, Mo., and a member of Mountain Home Church of Christ. He is survived by his wife, **Pansy**; his father, **J.W.**; his mother, **Fayrene**; a son, **Nathan**; a daughter, **Ashley Garner**; and two grandchildren. (54 Lee Road, #954, Smiths Station, AL 36877)

John Carleton Sharp ('91), 36, died Dec. 25, 2005, from renal disease. He is survived by his wife, **Theonnis Beard**; his mother, **Sarah Sharp**; and two brothers, **Christopher** and **Damian**. (9608 Inagua Drive, St. Louis, MO 63136)

PHOTO BY JEFF MONTGOMERY

BRADLEY AND MARTIN PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE FAMILIES; PERRIN PHOTO COURTESY OF LUBBOCK CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

TRIBUTE

ANNIE MAY ALSTON LEWIS 1939

Librarian by trade, servant at heart

By DON MEREDITH, head librarian, Graduate School of Religion

I KNEW ANNIE MAY LEWIS for a little more than 46 years, during which she filled several roles in my life: student worker supervisor, fellow student, boss, professional colleague, fellow teacher, mentor, Christian friend and surrogate mother.

Professionally, Lewis was a librarian and teacher. She graduated from Harding in 1939 with a degree in English and taught in public schools while she completed a bachelor's degree in library science from Peabody College.

Dr. George Benson asked her to come to Harding in 1944 to teach English. In 1947 she became head librarian and worked tirelessly to improve the quality of the facility. When Harding received accreditation in 1954, the library received the highest praise from the visitation team. During this time, Lewis completed a master's degree at the University of Chicago.

After her father died, Lewis took a leave of absence to be with her mother. When her replacement left, Benson again invited her back as librarian, and she served in that capacity from 1956-1962. She was always a fierce advocate for the library and its funding, which she was usually successful in obtaining.

She worked hard and expected no less from those who worked with her. She was certainly never hesitant to let you know when you needed to modify your behavior or attitude. There was never any doubt who was in charge. But she was also kind and concerned about her employees and served as a mentor to several who ultimately became librarians.

In 1962 after several invitations from W.B. West, Lewis agreed to become librarian at the Graduate School of Religion. She took a course in theological bibliography at the University of Chicago to prepare for this new role.

The first theological librarian in the churches of Christ, she was entrusted to build from scratch a quality collection to support a theological graduate program. She attacked this project with the same hard work and determination that had characterized her tenure at Searcy.

She was also the first member of the churches of Christ to become a member of the American Theological Library Association, the national organization for theological librarians.

Through attending annual meetings, she developed relationships with theological librarians from such schools as Duke, Princeton and Yale. These contacts were immensely helpful to her in learning what and how to add materials to the collection.

When Lewis came to the Graduate School of Religion, the library contained about 5,000 volumes and subscribed to 82 periodicals. When she retired in 1983, it had almost 69,000 volumes and received 582 periodicals.

I never had Lewis as a teacher, but all the testimony I have heard suggests that she was a great one. She developed a course in the late '60s to improve students' writing and



research skills. Because of her work, the Graduate School of Religion is still one of the few seminaries to require such a course.

Although Lewis did not seek anything for herself, she was never hesitant to ask for funds for the Graduate School of Religion or its library. She was content to live frugally and send her money to people and institutions she felt needed it most.

Her hospitality included food and fellowship offered to every conceivable category of people. She loved her family and supported them in any way she could. She loved Jack, whom she married just three days short of her 61st birthday. The marriage embodied God's command to love others as he loved us.

On April 6 Lewis posthumously became the first person to receive the Alumnus of the Year award for the second time. This award is presented to the alumnus who best characterizes the school's theme for the year. The 2005-06 theme was holiness, and the alumni and administration could think of no one who exemplified holiness more than she.

She lived by her own words: "Where there's need, try to fill it because you belong to the Lord." **H**

Lewis ('39), 88, died March 9. She is survived by her husband, **Jack**; and two stepsons, **John** ('69) and **Jerry** ('75). (1132 S. Perkins, Memphis, TN 38117)

The lion, the witch, the hype and the hope: Narnia on film

By JOHN WILLIAMS, professor of English

CHRISTMAS CAME EARLY IN 2005 FOR MANY READERS WITH THE DEC. 9

premiere of *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, Disney's film adaptation of the first of C.S. Lewis' best-selling children's books. The movie did great at the box office, earning \$290 million in the United States. No doubt Christians bought a hefty percentage of those tickets, and no doubt their expectations were high for an experience that captured the magic of the series. But what, exactly, did they get for their tickets?

As consumers, they first bought into a "pop-culture event," as one source described the goal of the film's producers. Increasingly, Hollywood markets not just films but blockbusters. *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* was intended by Disney to be a blockbuster. The hype began early, and by the premiere a host of product tie-ins from Play Station to Home Depot had been launched. As for the Lewis franchise itself, HarperCollins repackaged the Narnia series, and various publishers commissioned as many as 140 Lewis-related books. The film made money for lots of people and may have resuscitated Disney, whose reputation and profit line had recently plunged.

Narnia fans, especially Christians, also bought with their tickets a small piece of the culture wars. On the marketing side, this battle played out as two distinct strategies, one for a secular audience and one for faith-based groups. Given the recent incendiary nature of religious debates, some media experts predicted trouble for Disney as it walked this tightrope. Though major controversy never emerged, reaction to the film and its source material did highlight the divide in this country over religion and a number of social issues.

Controversy about the books had been simmering for years, with different readers interpreting very different messages. For most, Narnia was didactic childhood adventure. For some fundamentalists, it was sugarcoated religious error. For enemies of Christianity and traditional values, Lewis' fictional world was a morass of politically incorrect attitudes about women and race. Novelist Alison Lurie exemplifies the more extreme attacks when she attributes the popularity of the series among conservative Christians to a mindless respect for authority that blocks social progress.

Most Christian ticket buyers, of course, did not see themselves as victims of hype or as combatants in culture wars. What they hoped to see on the screen was something of the magic Lewis had evoked with his winter wonderland of talking animals, a wicked witch, and the Christ-like lion called Aslan, a formula that had sold 85 million books since it

first appeared in 1950. Though Lewis insisted that *The Chronicles of Narnia* were not religious allegories, he did intend his fairy tales to suggest the major elements of Christian faith.

Opinions vary on how well the film captures its source in this respect. For example, Leland Ryken, Wheaton College biblical and literary scholar, himself co-author of one of the books on Narnia that appeared in 2005, calls the film "a missed opportunity," citing "unnecessary . . . departures from the book." He singles out the climactic battle (described by Lewis in less than two pages) as a chief problem, and its 20-minute duration, driven by special effects, seems to cater to adolescent expectation for video-game violence.

Arguably the film diminishes the Christ-like presence of Aslan by, among other things, suppressing his connection with "the deeper magic" of an eternal father. Nevertheless, many readers came away pleased, among them assistant professor Larry Hunt, who teaches a course in C.S. Lewis at the University. For Hunt, the film "preserved the Christian tone of the books." Both he and Ryken agree that *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, along with Peter Jackson's *Lord of the Rings* trilogy, are positive steps in opening cultural dialogue about spiritual matters.

The Narnia film captures at least something of the vision behind the art of both Tolkien and Lewis. As Tolkien famously put it, myth-makers "serve as sub-creators . . . because we are made: and not only made, but made in the image and likeness of a Maker." For Lewis, myth had been a pathway to Christianity. Now his own hodgepodge of mythic elements intends to provide a similar route of wonder for children, who, in watching the sacrificial death and supernatural resurrection of Aslan, absorb imaginatively the "intersection of myth and history" where a real "dying god" intervenes on behalf of humans.

In darkened theaters across America, more than one child and not a few adults felt their pulse quicken at perhaps the most quotable line from the book and film. It mysteriously stirred the hearts of the children visiting Narnia, even before they had full knowledge of the battle between the evil witch and the good lion. Spoken by a beaver, of all things, the phrase, in context, creates a dynamic expectation of wonder. With their lives in danger, with portents of disaster surrounding them, the children hear words that energize and comfort: "Aslan is on the move." **H**

Dr. JOHN WILLIAMS earned his doctorate from Ohio University.



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[Final Frame]

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Brightly lit, the 6,100-square-foot Oliver and Norma Rogers Research Center is a welcome addition to the L.M. Graves Memorial Library at the Graduate School of Religion in Memphis, Tenn. The facility, which honors the couple for more than 50 years of full-time ministry in Chicago and Bloomington, Ind., was dedicated April 6.

